

# Libraries

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## Art Advertising and Advertising Art<sup>1</sup>

Annie Hornsby Calhoun, head of the Fine Arts division, Public library, Seattle, Wash.

In this day of specializing, I am sure there is no need for me to stress the importance or need of a special art collection in a public library—a place where all the books on art, architecture, music, etc., are brought together and administered by those specially fitted for this work. And to a gathering of art librarians, I think I can venture this statement: that an art department is, or should be, the most important department in a library.

It is not always the largest or most popular department, but it is the one which contributes to the individual and to the community that which is finest, that which is most gracious, that which is most needful in life.

There are many definitions of the word "Art", and it gives one confidence to refer to a dictionary occasionally, where will be found to what varying purposes art is applied. We find references to the arts of beauty, the arts of utility. Some synonyms are skill, dexterity, and these surely have to do with all things that are made.

One definition of architecture is, that it embraces the two ideas of science and art—"As an art it is the work of the skilled hand; as a science it is that of the informed and cultured brain." From this we might gather that art is

the more practical, science the more theoretical. This, I think, is contrary to the usual conception.

Then again we have this: Art is the external manifestation of the idea.

Among these definitions, the one that appeals to me most strongly is that of W. R. Lethaby when he says "Art is the doing well that which needs to be done," not the superficial thing, not the unnecessary thing, but the thing which needs to be done. This brings art to the place where it belongs, to every needful thing that is done.

I'm citing these few definitions to bring to our minds again the universality of the appeal to be made in advertising art.

But our problem is not to reassure ourselves of our own sincere purpose, and of the importance of the work in which we are engaged, but to make known to the man who may need what the library has to offer, that here he will find what he needs. And just here I would like to say that there is much in an art department for the practical man. The practical man looms large on the American horizon—in fact, he seems at times to fill the whole horizon. He is popularly supposed to like business books, or books on engineering or mechanics. He might even be interested in economics,

<sup>1</sup>Read at A. L. A. meeting at Seattle, July 8, 1925.

possibly sociology—we give him books on salesmanship, that show him how he may “put over” a deal, or take advantage of every opportunity to advance his own interests. But we must not mention the word art in the hearing of the practical man. Now it has been found that salesmanship is not all of life, and I’m beginning to believe that the popular conception of the practical man, as one separated from his fellows, is a myth. Aren’t we all practical in our own line?

I maintain that the practical man is the man who in all walks of life endeavors to live rightly, to deal justly, and to do well the thing that needs doing. The practical man knows what he wants and does not hesitate to go where he may find it. In an art department, he will find much that will be of use to him, and we should use every endeavor to make this known to him.

If he is a furniture manufacturer, let him know that the library can show him books on furniture of the best designs and all periods. If he wants to build a house, make known to him that here he will find house plans, or should a garden interest him, that there are books on the laying out of gardens and the cultivation of flowers.

He may be an importer, entering the Oriental trade. Show him that only in the art department can he study the best products of Chinese and Japanese art.

A manufacturer has here an opportunity to study the pottery and porcelain of all countries. A designer of tiles and other architectural ornament may be shown many books on applied design.

The commercial artist will find much to supplement his own collection; and for the advertiser, the resources of an art department are unlimited.

These are only a few of the interests that may be served thru an art department. And I need not enlarge here upon what we have to offer, but just indicate some methods that may

be taken to make known to the public what they may find that they need. To a certain extent, an art department is its own best advertisement, its best publicity agent. The well chosen collection, the ready and competent assistant, should give such assurance that those who come for help will come again, and will also tell others what they may find here. This may be ideal, but it’s slow, and our problem is to see that they come the first time.

In all libraries, book lists are used extensively, and there is nothing new in the idea that the Art department of the Seattle public library makes use of this method too. We watch opportunities, and in the event of some special meeting or occasion we get out a list of books which we think will appeal to the special group concerned.

On one occasion, we got out a list on house planning, and had it distributed at an “Own Your Home” exposition. This brought immediate results, many people coming, with list in hand, to get some of the books.

When the Cheng society put on a Chinese exhibition at the Olympic hotel, we made out a list of books on Chinese art. On the occasion of a pottery exhibit, under the auspices of the Seattle fine arts society, a list on pottery and porcelain was distributed. We keep in close touch with this society and find they are always ready to help in every way they can to make our department better known.

When an opera company or well known singer is to appear in the city, we set aside the music covered in the program, and let it be known that this may be consulted in the library. This service is very much appreciated, and the books are used up to the last minute before the performance begins. At the request of an organist, and at his own expense, a list of books on the organ was made out and distributed.

The newspapers have given space to writing up our music collection, and we have also sent post cards to the musicians of the city notifying them

of the music in the library. Post card notices are sometimes sent to different groups or individuals notifying them of new books that may be of interest to them.

In the library, we have a bulletin board in the main lobby, where are posted the jackets of new art books with class and Cutter numbers. We find this brings many people to the art department who perhaps would not come unless their attention were called to it in this way. In the upper lobby, which is just off the art room, exhibitions are held thruout the year. These, for the most part, show what may be found in the art collection, and serve to make the resources of the department known to many people. Sometimes this space is requested for exhibition purposes by outside organizations, and when it is possible, we grant these requests.

The newspapers are usually glad to have notice of these exhibits for news items, and when there is an exhibition of unusual interest, a reporter is detailed to write it up. A few years ago we had an exhibition of old Seattle views, showing Seattle before and at the time of the Seattle fire, 1889. This proved of great interest to the newspapers, and there was also a write-up in the official organ of the Chamber of commerce.

A recent experience has been radio talks on the resources of the art department. Within an hour after the first one, a woman asked who gave the talk, and said her husband was very much interested, and that he was coming to the library. I don't know whether he has come yet, but if he's a practical man, I know he will.

These are a few ways in which we

may make known what we have to offer.

In all our efforts for publicity, I think we have some prevalent ideas to combat. The first one is that "art" is spelled with a capital A—that there is something sacrosanct about art and the artistic. Another idea is that any oil painting, hand painted, is a work of art—or any thing "a hundred years old." In America, if a thing is a hundred years old, it is spoken of with bated breath, and put reverently aside as a work of art.

But a hundred years seems to be as far as we can go. Do you know the man (or woman), who, in a wild rage of enthusiasm, announces that he (or she) is going to start something new—that what people want in art is not dead and gone things, but something up-to-date? These we have with us too.

But again I repeat, we should eternally strive to convey the idea that art is *not* spelled with a capital A—that it does *not* include *all* oil paintings, hand painted—that it is *not* limited to things a hundred years old, or to a passing fad, and that the whole meaning of the word artistic is *not* comprehended in decorated lamp shades, sofa cushions and bridge sets.

Coming back to Mr Lethaby's definition, "Art is the doing well that which needs to be done", we can see that art is not a fashion but an essential, that what is being well done today has the same vital quality of that which was well done long ages ago, that quality which has made it endure—which has made it immortal.

It is our privilege, as well as a duty, to direct our best efforts toward advertising art as a needful thing in life.

## Methods of Publicity in an Art Department

Effalene Holden King, head of the Art department, City library, Springfield, Mass.

With publicity the taskmaster of our day, how can an art department make its voice heard, its face seen, or hold out its hand so that it may be noticed among all the flaring follies and noisy enticements so thoroly and loudly advertised? We cannot blight the highways with gaudy billboards commanding him who runs to read: "Welcome to our Art Library", "Borrow your beauty at the Library". Are there ways that an art department can decently and respectably, as well as effectively, advertise the beautiful things that are essential to the loveliness of life? I have been asked to tell of the methods that have been tried, or may soon be tried, in Springfield, Massachusetts.

First, of some of the ways in use at the present time; afterwards of a few schemes of the past; and then of a few of our plans for the future.

Publicity may be divided into two classes—one inside advertising, the other outside advertising.

Book lists we print and place where they are likely to attract notice. We also place them inside books of the right sort that are popular.

Last fall and winter, six talks were given by the head of the art department on the resources of the room. Among the subjects were the following: The Aston collection of wood engravings and block-prints, The Wallace collection of etchings, The art of the book (with the emphasis on illumination), The history of costume, Print processes, Egypt.

We hold several exhibitions during the year from recent purchases of portfolios of plates or other pictorial material. These exhibitions are noticed in our printed monthly bulletin where, of course, our new phonograph records as well as books are listed.

We have in the vestibule of our building a bulletin board specially made for the art department. It is

reversible. One side has a glass cover (or door) securely fastened, behind which fairly valuable plates can be safely shown. A sign indicates whether the picture is related to a current exhibition, a recent purchase, or other work of timely interest. The unglazed side of the board is used at intervals for notices and signs with perhaps less choice illustration—or none at all, for example, a sign—"Phonograph records may be borrowed." This sign we use when we think we can handle a larger circulation.

In the art room, we have a table where we put a few books related to the current exhibition or sometimes to a timely subject as the current "*week*" (in quotation marks) altho we are not overenthusiastic about national "*weeks*". Sometimes, again, we use the table for the display of delightful books that somehow haven't seemed to have their deserved share of popularity.

A basement window, practically on the street, we sometimes use to call the attention of the passerby to the library's picture collection, phonograph collection, or musical scores.

Springfield is not peculiar, I know, in its interest in its own products and things otherwise associated with its life. We take advantage of this rather widespread characteristic of human nature as a means of attracting people to the art room. We hold at least once each year, and usually oftener, some exhibition having local appeal. It may be designs by commercial artists; it may be architectural drawings and plans; it may be sketches with pen, pencil, and chalk; it may be pottery made in the schools, or decorated fabrics, and so on. Or it may be a bringing together of old family treasures, as miniatures, silhouettes, daguerreotypes, samplers, fans, bead bags, shawls, coverlets, etc. Our most recent exhibition of local interest consisted of plans, maps, and sketches



made for the Springfield Planning Board.

Turning to outside advertising, there is a portable, small, and dignified sign board which is used chiefly for a poster concerning some exhibition held in the library hall or in the art room by some affiliated organization. This board is near the entrance to the building and the poster may easily be read from the sidewalk. (This does not come under the head of the billboard nuisance.)

Newspapers, as everywhere, I suppose, are an important means of publicity. Sometimes we are a little aghast at misstatements that appear, but even at their worst they keep our work before newspaper readers and at their best they are of inestimable value. All our activities are advertised in this way—exhibitions, new books, records, lists, etc. Sometimes we are fortunate enough to secure illustrated articles in the Sunday issues. Thru the influence of our librarian, one of the evening papers has recently inaugurated a *Library Column* to include not only book notes, as formerly, but all sorts of items of general interest. For example, we can thus occasionally call attention to our bulletin board where we post a list of local events in art and music for the coming month with perhaps additional notices, pictures, and newspaper clippings.

Announcement of exhibitions is made at the meetings of the Art group of the Women's club and of the Federation of Women's clubs.

We mail our printed lists to selected names in our card directory of those in the city we know to have art interests of some sort. In the same way, we send what we call "you may be interested" postals for new books and pictures and exhibitions. We go over club programs and when an art topic is scheduled, we send a card to the one in charge of that meeting.

A brief list of new books is printed on the catalog of the Springfield Art

league's annual exhibition; a notice of our large musical collection appears in the programs of the Springfield symphony orchestra's performances.

So much for our present efforts—both inside and out.

In past years, representatives from our department have visited schools with sample pictures and briefly talked to the teachers about the library's resources along that line or have conferred with the teachers as to how our service could be improved. Lists of subjects represented in our picture collection have been mailed to the schools; notices have been sent for their bulletin boards; conferences held with superintendents, supervisors, and principals. The librarian has addressed the whole body of city teachers at the opening meeting of the year in the municipal auditorium. Circular letters have been sent to institutions, chiefly the schools—Sunday schools as well as day schools. A continuation of some of this advertising is still in operation—for example: each month request blanks for pictures are sent to the teachers of the junior high schools for them to fill out and return to the library. The pictures are later delivered to the schools by the school supply delivery.

We have three small bulletin boards at the ends of locked cases. Sometimes we have used them to exhibit samples from the contents of the corresponding cases.

As to the future—next year we plan to visit the heads of certain departments in the department stores—as furniture, silk, etc., to inquire how best our collections can be made of use to their staffs. Personal conversation with something in hand, we find generally more successful than circular letters. I should like to do the same with Sunday school superintendents and community house directors.

We expect also to have notices of the musical collection in the Music Festival programs; to place for distribution short special lists, probably

mimeographed, in art stores and art departments—as: a list on technic for a place where artists' supplies are sold, and perhaps a list on picture study in a framing department, etc.

We may arrange to have exhibitions of samples in some of the schools for a meeting of the teachers in those buildings.

We may have announcements of exhibitions given at more of the clubs.

I suppose the radio is the way to the greatest number. Our library has broadcasted reviews of new books but the art department has not yet taken part. I hope it may come about in time.

In conclusion, I would repeat what I have already suggested: of our experiments, we find that personal communication, altho the most expensive form of publicity, brings the surest results.

### After Seeing Romola

Quantrille D. McClung, librarian Park Hill library, Denver, Colorado

No doubt, most of the people who see the photo-play Romola never realize that they can prolong and preserve the pleasure such a film gives them. When infinite pains have been taken, not only to make a picture beautiful, but to make it true to the times which it portrays, it is a pity not to make an effort to retain as long as possible, the scenes which have passed so swiftly before the eye. The best way to do this is to read books which deal with those events and situations and which will, in turn, be enriched by having seen the picture. Among the first that come to mind in this connection is Romola. When George Eliot wrote this book, she not only gave us a fine novel with a strong appeal to our sense of right and wrong, but a vivid portrayal of the old city of Florence in Italy. On the very first page, we feel the atmosphere of her crowded streets, we hear the cadences of an unknown tongue, and realize the differences between that society and our own. Any good travel book on Florence will have photographs or sketches of the historic buildings where many of the scenes of the book took place and over which we may pore to our heart's content, while an old Baedeker will yield maps whereon we may trace Romola's passing to and fro across her native city. If one has never read a book in this way before, it will be a new and delightful experience.

Of books which might be read next, the best is probably Merejkowsky's

Romance of Leonardo da Vinci. Written from a different point of view, it deals with the same period and introduces to us many of the leading characters of the time with the gifted and lovable Leonardo as the central figure. Historical personages are never so real as when we meet them in the pages of a good novel and hear them speak as we do in this one. Should one wish to enter more deeply into the life of the great reformer who moved us to admiration and to pity, Villari's Life and times of Girolamo Savonarola is easy to read and full of interest. To get the point of view of a distinguished Florentine, we have only to take up Cellini's Memoirs in which he tells us exactly what he thought and felt and how he behaved. He has written frankly and fully of his times and experiences and to read even a part of this book will give us some conception of a life so different from our own.

Elizabeth Champney has a penchant for searching out the old tales that are apt to be forgotten in the rush and hurry of our modern life and her Romance of the Italian villas is a series of fascinating stories of the men and women whose names were well known in Romola's day. Their old palaces and villas are still standing although, in most cases, their glories are dimmed or vanished. A most interesting study might be made of the lovely and gifted women of the Italian Renaissance, women such as Isabella d'Este or Guilia Gonzaga who were in many

ways so closely allied to the best type of our modern women.

The reader desiring to fare farther into the realms of romantic and historical literature could not do better than to choose for the next excursion, Maurice Hewlett's *Little novels of Italy*. Charminglly written and full of the spirit of that golden age, these tales carry us for a time to a magic land. Of the same character is his short story, *Quattrocentisteria* which tells us of that lovely Simonetta who posed for several of Botticelli's famous pictures. The modern double of that fair creature appears as the heroine of Edwin Lefevre's novel, *Simonetta*. Those who have seen the Denishawn dancers give *Primavera* have had the supreme pleasure of seeing the picture come to life with Simonetta as the central figure.

It is impossible to think of Florence without recalling the great poet who once dwelt there. In his *God of Love*, J. H. McCarthy has pictured for us the brief and unfulfilled romance of Dante and Beatrice, leaving us with the feeling that if they had been permitted to marry, we might never have had the Beatrice of the poem.

In these days, another Italian city, Venice, was making her ineffaceable mark upon history, among her tributaries being the island of Cyprus to which she sent her beauteous daughter, Caterina Cornaro to be for a time its ill-fated queen. Mrs. T. T. Turnbull has told her touching story in a most sympathetic way in her *Royal pawn of Venice*. It was to Asola, near Florence, that the bereft queen came to spend the remainder of her short, sad life. Asola! the home of little Pippa, the ministering child who moves with such sweet seriousness through the pages of Browning's poetic drama *Pippa passes*. Much of Browning's poetry owes its inspiration to that city of Florence which he loved. If you prefer to begin the reading of Browning with a short poem, try *My last duchess* or *On a balcony*, which fit into

the glorious, tragic days of which we write. To return to Mrs. Turnbull; she has also done another novel well worth reading called *The golden book of Venice*.

Another character of these times which merits our attention is that of Cesare Borgia, at once a monster of infamy and a man of great physical beauty and irresistible personality. Rafael Sabatini's biography makes him real to us and Sabatini, Gallizier, and McCarthy as well as other novelists have used him as the center of thrilling tales of intrigue and mystery. Gallizier's *Court of Lucifer* and McCarthy's *Gorgeous Borgia* command the attention on every page and the former paints the city of Rome in much the same way that Romola makes Florence live before our eyes.

Many nations have looked with covetous eyes upon the fair land of Italy and it was during this period that France essayed to gain a foothold on her territory. *Leonora d'Orco* by G. P. R. James concerns itself with the ruthless invasion of Charles VIII of France which resulted so disastrously for the Duchy of Milan. Many of the scenes of this story are laid round the shores of lovely Lake Gardo to which one becomes deeply attached before the tale is ended. *Luca Sarto* by Charles Brooks, called by some the best novel of old Italy in the English language, is easy to read and deals with the group surrounding the senile Louis XI of France who also endeavored to annex Italy to his kingdom.

Mrs. Wharton, with supreme artistry, has taken for the theme of her *Valley of decision* the attempt of an enlightened ruler to improve the condition of his subjects only to be misunderstood and reviled and finally driven from his dukedom by the very people for whose good he had sacrificed his life's happiness. The angels of Messer Ercole by Duffield Osborne introduces us to the painter Perugino in the days of his youth, while Miss M. V. Livingston in *Fra Lippo Lippi*

tells the love story of the same artist whom Browning has chosen as the subject of his poem by that name. One of the great delights of reading is to find books, poems, essays or references of any sort that seem to belong together, as these do.

Clinton Scollard has tried his hand at several slight but entertaining tales, each one celebrating some well known episode. His *Man at arms* and *Vicar of the Marches* as well as Tommaso Grossi's *Marco Visconti* have to do with an earlier period than *Romola* but can be appropriately read in connection with any of these books. Ernest Goodwin's *Duchess of Siona* dealing with imaginary places and persons, reveals the stern realities that underlay the glamour of a most picturesque period and tells the story of haughty pride overcome by love, a theme that would lend itself readily to the screen. Anderson's *Romance of Leonardo da Vinci* takes us back to the studios of Florence and while we are enjoying the narrative we find ourselves unconsciously absorbing a better understanding of art and learning principles that may be applied to the next good

picture that we see. Using this book as a starting point, one could read for an indefinite period on the arts and crafts of the Renaissance and the men who brought them to so great a perfection. Florence has been the home, in modern times, of many distinguished men and women who have found her atmosphere congenial for work and study. It will not be difficult to find the books wherein one may read of their homes and haunts and what they accomplished, Lawrence Hutton's *Literary landmarks of Florence* and Lilian Whiting's *The Florence of Landor* being only two of many.

One might go on and on recommending biographies, books of travel, essays or such studies as John Addington Symond's *Short history of the Renaissance in Italy*, but the interested reader will have learned by this time how to find the sort of thing he specially likes and will go on adding bit by bit to the mosaic of Italy, finding that it grows richer and more colorful with each new discovery between the pages of a good book.

### Discipline in Small Libraries

Mary J. Cain, branch librarian, Public library, Indianapolis, Ind.

As long as boys congregate in gangs and dare to do in numbers what they would not venture to do as individuals, the problem of discipline in the small library will be one which the librarian must face and solve. Since it is characteristic of boy psychology to thus surround himself with others of his kind during certain years, the problem is likely to be ever-present, and intermittently in need of solution.

Many conditions contribute to the presence of this problem in the small library. Usually, the building itself stands apart from the rest of the town or community, in a sort of splendid isolation, and to boys not impressed with the right idea of a library, this circumstance alone offers an invitation to the spirit of mischief within them.

But even if they act on the invitation, they are not beyond reformation. I once heard a man who is now an able and reverent librarian confess that the classic correctness of the library in his home town, tempted him, on one occasion, to fill its vestibule with snow. Since then I have always wanted to make converts to the library of even the worst boys, rather than turn them over to the police or juvenile court.

Often, the attitude of the librarian is too impersonal and out of this grows her problem. The boys and girls enter day after day, get their books themselves without comment or aid from her, and not having the wealth of the library world disclosed to them thru intelligent help and gracious direction they naturally have not the feeling for



the library which would make them refrain from breaking the rules and disturbing the order.

It is a strange fact that this problem of discipline persists and is intensest in districts where the population is native born. The foreigner has an innate reverence for the public building. He feels privileged at the free access to its treasures accorded him there, and is respectful in attitude both toward the edifice and those in charge. The American, on the other hand, being more used to these things stands in less awe of them. He is descended from ancestors who have long known privilege, is less awed by it, and often abuses it.

He must be brought to see the value of the library to him and to the community; must be shown that good behavior on his part promotes the effectiveness of the flow of this value to him, and that therefore it is not unreasonable to ask him to speak quietly, walk noiselessly, refrain from acts of vandalism, and obey all the other library rules so annoying to adolescent boyhood.

To do this successfully, the librarian must project the personal attitude into her work. She must learn to know the children who use her library as the teacher knows her pupils. She must not only become acquainted with their personal appearance, she must learn to know them by name. There seems to be supreme refuge for an offender in the fact that, "she doesn't know me." How often is this phrase flung by one just reprimanded, at a companion who has ventured to prophesy disaster in consequence of the librarian's displeasure. The culprit knows, and the librarian feels helpless in the knowledge that the effective "follow up" method cannot be used where identification is impossible.

Therefore, as a first requisite toward maintaining discipline in your library, I would say: know your boys and girls; know your cliques; know your gangs; know the leaders of your gangs. Often, the attitude of a large number

of boys toward the library is changed through winning the good will of the leader of the gang. A little personal contact may discover traits and tendencies well worth directing. I remember in particular one disturber of the peace, a large boy much looked up to by some half dozen or more followers whose entrance to the library always meant trouble for the librarian. His chief accomplishment was an excellent imitation of barnyard noises. He had trained his gang well in the same line and their very creditable performances, had they been better placed and timed, might have suggested Chanticleer. Perhaps they did. At any rate, the idea of a drama league for this particular crowd popped into the head of the librarian and was suggested to them. At first it was scornfully and derisively turned down. Then a night or two after, the leader came in to talk over the possibility of carrying out the suggestion. On a following evening, other members of the gang accompanied him to discuss the same question.

The outcome was that a flourishing drama league was formed of which our gang leader became a very dignified and successful president, and incidentally a prop for the library.

After all, is it not the boy of the street who needs most what the library has to offer? The feeling of triumph attendant on bringing him under library influence is somewhat akin to the surpassing joy in Heaven over the return of one repentant sinner.

This method is equally effective if the boy proves hopelessly an enemy of law and order and resists altogether the social force of the library. The friendly attitude of the librarian disarms him. If he will not act properly in the library, he remains away. Frequently when this same end is effected thru outside agencies, the enmity of individuals and gangs for the library is incurred, and as a result, its efficiency is lowered.

The librarian who knows her patrons is made confident of herself in the consciousness of absolute control



of the situation, and too much cannot be said in favor of the policy when considering problems of discipline. It makes effective the slightest word of the librarian. Even a nod or look brings the desired result, and it eliminates the danger of falling into the habit of nagging.

An aid toward knowing juvenile patrons that must not be overlooked is familiarity with their organizations; the Boy Scouts; the Girl Scouts; the Junior drama league and a few others. Meetings in the library of these organizations should be encouraged. Discussions with the leaders, of needs and aims prove both revealing and helpful, and the resultant friendliness aids discipline a hundred fold. Where this coöperation exists, opportunities present themselves for the librarian to sometimes address the meetings, and the personal touch thus gained gives her a hold on the boys and girls which is not easily loosed.

In libraries where the problem of discipline is big, there is usually a small per cent of adult patrons. It would almost seem as though the grown-ups had moved out and left the undisciplined children in possession. In most cases this is probably what did happen. They came, time after time, to the library to select books, look over magazines, or to read; but finding dis-

order and attendant noise, their visits grew fewer and finally ceased altogether. Where this condition exists, means should be taken to increase the adult patronage. Home visiting and library teas have been found successful in an effort to build up such patronage. Mothers of children are reached in this way and discipline always improves with coöperation between the home and the library.

Aid of teachers in the schools should also be enlisted where the discipline problem exists. No more willing or powerful support can be mustered than that of the schools. But, here again, identification of the child is necessary for the best result.

Certainly no library can take its rightful place in the community where problems of discipline are allowed to persist. They block advance and defeat effectiveness. One library where the problem of discipline grew very serious solved it by the means discussed in this paper and in two years and a half increased in circulation and general efficiency 54 per cent.

Unquestionably, the library where discipline is a problem must set its house in order. Otherwise it merely exists from day to day and forfeits its advance with the great social force of which it is a part.

## Letters—Information and Discussion

### Who Are We?

Dear Editor: Fulminations are in order, I believe, because such Foundations as the Russell Sage, the American (which bestows the American Peace Award) and others maintain the attitude of salesmen toward the public libraries of the country, instead of that of fellow-workers.

I do not blame them, but I do blame our profession if we do not try to change their attitude. Our own libraries have to be kept from becoming bureaucratic by an enlightened public

—and we are a part of these Foundations' enlightened public!

Therefore when one reads such paragraphs as these:

The book has a special value for the average citizen to whom it is entirely intelligible and interesting.

We believe that an extensive use of this book—a really brief but not superficial treatment of the subject—will result in a widespread and genuine understanding of the principles underlying the foreign policy of the United States,

and when one remembers that founders of such agencies created them to

disseminate knowledge, one wonders why in the name of all that is logical such publications are not sent to such libraries as are willing to ask for them and guarantee proper cataloging and use, instead of being quoted at commercial rates.

Very sincerely,  
EDITH PATTERSON  
Librarian

Public library,  
Pottsville, Pa.

### The Right Spirit

My dear Editor:

I want to thank you for the generous mention of my recent birthday celebration. I haven't yet experienced the "labour of sorrow" predicted by the Psalmist for those who pull thru for ten years after the three score and ten year limit. In fact, I never was freer from life's ills, was never in better health, and never quite as keenly appreciated and enjoyed my friends. An encouragement to you young girls!

Yours very truly

JOHNSON BRIGHAM

Iowa State library  
Des Moines

### Again, the Winnetka List

St. Louis, Mo., April 2, 1926

The Editor of LIBRARIES:

I am apparently the only librarian who has omitted to criticize, or defend, or notice in some way, the new celebrated Winnetka Booklist, and I am anxious not to continue to be an exception.

I believe that I was the first person to whom this idea of the evaluation of children's literature by the children themselves occurred. I tried the experiment in the New York public library in 1902 and the results, with my discussion of them, was published in the *New York Times Saturday Review* on Feb. 15 of that year. The whole trouble with the Winnetka list, as I view it, is that, through misunderstanding, it has probably been bought in a considerable number of cases as a recommended list of books for pur-

chase. This might have been avoided if the Children's Librarians' section of the A. L. A. had been taken into consultation. The effort on which it is based is certainly an interesting one.

What has always fascinated me in this matter is the undoubted fact that children are wildly enthusiastic about certain books that children's librarians, and others who have given time to the study of the subject, have always frowned upon. In former days, the chief examples were the books of Oliver Optic and Horatio Alger, and the fact that these have been disapproved have practically barred them from all public libraries. When I was a boy, I liked these books as well as children always do, and my opinion of them at present coincides pretty nearly with that of other intelligent adults. Now the interesting point has been very well brought out by the authors of the list as quoted in your last issue on page 186 under the heading "Why many children like trashy and series books". Evidently if we can find out what it is in these books that the children like and then see that the books that we want them to have contain these same features in some unobjectionable way, we shall have gone far to solve our problem.

The explanation given by the authors of this particular article seems to me very largely superficial and unsatisfactory. First, they say "These are the only books that many children have read". That certainly was not the reason why I liked Optic and Alger, for the scope of my reading was very large and I was enjoying some of the best literature, both juvenile and adult, at the very time when I liked these books. Their second reason, namely, that these books require little or no mental effort, I should also reject, because when I was reading these books I also disliked and cast aside quantities of books that required even less mental effort than they. In their third reason, I believe that the critics are correct, namely,

that children like a series of books in which familiar characters appear. This is undoubtedly true, and it is not peculiar to children. The re-appearance of familiar characters has made many good books popular from the days of Anthony Trollope down to Compton Mackenzie. It certainly is entirely unobjectionable, and there is no reason why the device should not be used in an effort to induce children to read really good books. I should give as another reason the fact that many intelligent persons, both young and old, enjoy a good narrative entirely independently of its literary merit. The art of story telling is a thing apart. A good raconteur always commands an audience, no matter whether he is educated or uneducated, literate or illiterate. Tracy and Oppenheim are good story tellers and I for one have no hesitation in saying that I enjoy reading their books. I see no reason why I should not do so. But that is because there is no danger of my devoting my whole time to these authors and forming my mental habits and my literary tastes upon them. The fact, however, should make us realize that books for children should be written first of all by expert story tellers.

There are undoubtedly many other elements that remain undiscovered, and I hope the children's librarians will succeed in digging them out sooner or later. So long as we realize that the Winnetka list is not a list of books recommended for purchase, it seems to me that its publication can do no possible harm and may do a great deal of good.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK

Librarian

St. Louis Public library

### Examination

The U. S. Civil Service commission announces an examination for station and hospital and assistant hospital librarians. Applications will close May 15. Full information may be obtained from the Civil Service commission, Washington, D. C.

### The Carnegie Gifts

A letter asking comment on the Carnegie Foundation's gift to American librarianship was sent to a number of librarians whose views are of value because of their experience, positions and influence in the library movement. The following replies have been received up to the present:

No more conclusive evidence of the confidence in the part the American Library Association should play in important educational problems could be given than the princely gift of the Carnegie Corporation to the A. L. A. and its allied interests.

The gift does not come from inexperienced donors to an untried organization, but from men of affairs to an association of proven responsibility which for 50 years has done constructive work with high intelligence. The gift represents the change in emphasis from the importance of library building as compared to trained library personnel in those buildings. It marks a decisive period in the development of library work in America and forecasts a splendid future.

CHALMERS HADLEY

Public library  
Cincinnati, Ohio

The many members of the A. L. A. who have had visions of the ever-broadening service to be rendered by the association, and who have shared with the Executive board its concern for the financial future upon which that service depends, are rejoicing together over the gifts recently made by the Carnegie Corporation.

The endowments for the library schools, including the much-talked-of graduate school, though not given to the A. L. A., are equally important to it and to the general library welfare and progress of the country.

Our appreciation and gratitude can best be expressed by a full recognition and acceptance of the new responsibility for worthy achievement which these added resources place upon the library profession.

LINDA A. EASTMAN

Public library  
Cleveland, Ohio

The members of the American Library Association must deeply appreciate and rejoice in the magnificent gift of the Carnegie Corporation, as it is in part a recognition of the good work which the association has already accomplished.

With its acceptance, comes responsibility, and each member should resolve anew to take part in making the A. L. A. prove worthy of this tribute.

The officers of the association are to be

warmly congratulated upon the receipt of the gift, and they should feel that its members recognize their part in bringing about this wonderful opportunity for future service.

WALTER L. BROWN  
Librarian

Public library  
Buffalo, N. Y.

I have noticed that when a sudden increase of available funds comes to an individual or to an institution, there is very great danger that he or it will act as if this mere augmented ability to do things meant also an increased knowledge of how to do them. I trust that this will not be the case with our association, but I am afraid that all our vigilance will be required to escape it.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK  
Librarian

Public library  
St. Louis, Mo.

(1) From a detached viewpoint, the grant of the Carnegie Corporation represents the wise choice, after deliberate investigation, of a single agent thru which such resources as the Corporation may assign to library uses may be specifically applied. The concentration of the resources in one agency will centralize responsibility, avoid unnecessary duplication, and the frittering of funds in irrelevant projects, or projects not conducive to an organic result. The selection of the American Library Association as the agent ensures a professional judgment already tested and a prospect that this judgment will be exercised with prudence and discretion.

(2) From the point of view of the Association itself and of the members of it, the grant intensifies responsibility. The decision for it doubtless presumed that a body that had been prudent, economical, unselfish, and effective in small things—and in some large—could be trusted to continue such qualities in the application of resources within its independent control. This expectation must not be defeated.

(3) Compared with the work to be done, the amount of the grant is not excessive. The income from it will not be considerably greater than that which, in the past year or two, has been assigned to the Association in special grants. Instead of delaying the effort to raise additional endowment both from within its ranks and from other sources, the grant from the Corporation should serve as an additional incentive and obligation.

HERBERT PUTNAM  
Librarian

Library of Congress  
Washington, D. C.

It seems only a few weeks since we were gathered together at the Fabyan House in the White Mountains in 1890 and there listened to the wise predictions of Dr Lewis H. Steiner as to what might be expected of the public library in the near future. The report on the endowment fund showed that \$400 had been set aside, the interest of which only was to be used for the furtherance of the library idea, and when it was proposed to increase this amount there was a lively tilt, with Pliny T. Sexton and Melvil Dewey on the one side and Mr Hovey on the other, as to whether New York or Massachusetts should lead in contributing to this same fund!

In furtherance of the same idea we are suddenly face to face with the wonderful gifts of the Carnegie Corporation and feel that we must go forth once more and ask the public for a million dollars, at least, in order to build a firm foundation for those things which are necessary to carry out the ideals which have been made possible by Mr. Carnegie's previous gifts to the cause.

Well! Let's go!!

THOMAS L. MONTGOMERY  
Historical Society of Pa.,  
Philadelphia.

One of the greatest values of the gift lies in the fact that a definite amount is to be annually available which will, for the first time, make possible a carefully planned, sequential, constructive program.

M. S. DUDGEON  
Public library  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The munificent gift from the Carnegie Corporation of four million dollars in the interest of the library profession, supplementing the generous gifts of the Corporation in the past, is not only an inspiration but a challenge. Library trustees, librarians and friends of libraries rejoice in the recognition of the service given by an unique American institution, the public library, and of the growing importance of training librarians and assistants for their profession. This splendid generosity should stimulate the growth in membership of the American Library Association and inspire it to raise further endowment for general library purposes. Permanent financial stability can be assured by an enthusiastic belief in the aims of the association.

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN  
President, A. L. A.  
Boston, Mass.

A note from Louise S. Miltimore, librarian of the American Institute of Accountants, says that the Institute will be glad to send the *Letter Bulletins* issued by the Bureau of public affairs, New York City, free of charge.



Monthly—Except August  
and September

# Libraries

216 W. Monroe Street  
Chicago, Illinois

Mary Eileen Ahern, Editor

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Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Five copies to one library - - -	\$12 a year
Current single number - - - - -	35 cents	Foreign subscriptions - - -	\$3.50 a year

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By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money-orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of **LIBRARIES** should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

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## The Southeastern Regional A. L. A. Meeting

**B**EFORE another issue of **LIBRARIES**, the annual meeting of the Southeastern library association at Signal Mt. Inn, Tennessee, will have been held. The program shows such preparation as one expects for a national meeting and indeed this is one in fact as important committees of the A. L. A. are scheduled to meet at the time of this gathering of southern librarians and to discuss national problems.

The place of meeting is unexcelled for beauty of scenery, for comfort in

accommodations (unless too many attend) and the hospitality of the Chattanooga contingent as outlined in the program seems not to have lost anything of the fine quality it has shown on the previous occasions of meeting. One must hope that the enlarged circle of attendance will not be such as to dim or discolor the southern atmosphere that gives the distinctive pleasure of the occasion.

"Regional meetings are to be part of A. L. A. proceedings."

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## Riches of Librarianship

**T**HE celebrated English educator, Dr M. E. Sadler, in an address to a group of his co-workers once said:

The right kind of education is not a luxury, but an investment; and the best outcome of education is not mere intellectual skill. It consists rather in a broadening of the outlook upon life, in a finer sense of responsibility, in a keener sympathy with the minds of others, in a readiness to sacrifice selfish interests to the public service, and in deepened insight into duty.

If these words be true and one can not doubt it, the inspiration offered by

library service is second to none other. When this is realized the way is clear, for an appreciation of the opportunity for service is the first requisite for anyone determining to enter the library field in any capacity. With this lacking, anything else is only partly efficient.

The humblest worker in any library, to register as part of the plan, must sense and appreciate the necessity for his work being of the very best kind



possible to meet the relation which it will bear to the other parts of the work and which it will touch from first to last. This same feeling must pervade every endeavor all the way thru the library force till it reaches and enfolds the important post of administrator. Here it is a concentrated power and passes from that point to the board of directors or trustees which in turn shows it to the public which supports and uses the library.

While this golden thread of honest endeavor may not show at all times in all positions to the casual observer, it always shows where the connections referred to are carried unbroken to consummation. On the other hand, nearly anyone of experience has seen the sad results of the lack of such appreciation of opportunity—has seen one or another of a force doing everything possible, sometimes with much overwork, to remedy the lack in some part of the line not his own. Libraries handicapped by politics or crippled by the so-called "civil service," oftentimes neither civil nor service and seldom of merit, invariably are honeycombed by poor results on the part of the file, incompetence on the part of the rank. Less frequently than formerly, however, is this the case and where it is so, it more frequently than before stands out like a stiff thumb and is known of all honest workers.

In appreciation of the institution, by the powers who hold the purse strings,

is seen the spirit of belief of the trustees who have brought before these persons the claim of the institution to the support to which it is entitled. The names of many places arise in mind at once as evidence of loyal service from trustees who are so in fact as well as in name.

And all of these together bring library service up to the point of appreciation of it by persons of means who, filled also with the spirit of service, choose the library as the channel thru which to carry their ideas of being helpful to their day and to the generations that are to follow them.

The history of Mr Carnegie's early years is too well-known to repeat but it might be well to recall to younger librarians, his many expressions of appreciation of the faithful work of the librarians with whom he came in contact or of the good library work whose results came under his observation. These, too, are matters of record and now thru the wise provisions of his trustees carrying out his often expressed views as to what was near his heart, librarianship is being made the recipient of the greatest sign of appreciation it has ever received in the whole history of the craft. Now, indeed, may its devotees rejoice in its opportunity to develop real riches, to be the thing Mr Carnegie and his kind think it is—a great opportunity for a service not exceeded in quality or kind by any other calling and ministering to all.

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### True History

An advertisement of another recent *Life of Abraham Lincoln* states, "In preparation, books have been almost entirely ignored. The material is from newspapers. This study of original

contemporary accounts results in first-hand vividness of detail." That sounds, in these days at least, as if the contents of the book might be just the opposite, entirely untrustworthy — a romance instead of a history.

### That All May Be Comforted

SOME American librarian took his pen in hand and prepared for the columns of the *New York Times*, February 14, an article setting out what in the writer's judgment are the high standards of American library service as compared with the methods in the European libraries. There is some truth in what the writer says, but evidently it was written with limited experience in European libraries. That the mechanical handling of books have a higher degree of speed in American libraries prepared to assist research workers may be conceded. But too often it is the outstanding or even the sole reliance that the inquirer meets in his need of help, and this mechanical assistance in no wise makes up for or takes the place of the wonderful stores of learning and understanding of the subjects which interest the reader, and which are at the service of the serious inquirer in the majority of good libraries abroad.

The writer in the *Times*, perhaps, has in mind some isolated experience where his impatience with the service rendered by the library may have had a foundation but which same is likely to meet him in an American library as every day experience will testify. The experience of having a book "out"

is one that is world-wide in its occurrence and such an answer to a request for a book has been known to produce fireworks in an American library reference room too often for anyone to localize it in Europe.

The thesis that the *Times* writer offers that the proper organization of a library will make material that is wanted "available with the least possible effort" is substituting again the mechanical for the personal knowledge. Both are valuable, but the results of the mechanical production are not sufficiently general or extensive to exalt them to any considerable degree beyond knowledge of the subject studied, which is likely to be met in many libraries whose methods, according to American ideas, leave something to be desired. One questions whether the quick answer which a business man wishes at once is entitled to be called research. It certainly is information, but often of an ephemeral kind, and except for the business use which may be made of it, is not in itself of particular value in the accumulation of knowledge.

"There is so much good in the worst of us and so much bad in the best of us" that it hardly behooves that we should say anything unkind of our fellow-worker's ways.

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### Visitors from England

A note from England says: The paragraph on page 128 of March *LIBRARIES*, relative to the British Library Association representatives, at the anniversary meeting of the A. L. A., may now be supplemented. Two further names must be added to those of Messrs. Pacy, Pitt and Powell. Both are members of the younger generation who have attained eminence in the library profession.

Mr C. Nowell, librarian of Coventry, and formerly sub-librarian at Norwich, is one of the most thoughtful and far sighted librarians in England. Coventry is now almost an ideal library from the point of view of an intensely busy and serious manufacturing community.

The other member of the party will represent most worthily the British

woman librarian. Miss "Nancy" Cooke is as able as she is charming. Educated at Cheltenham college, she obtained the post of librarian to the Gloucester County library when that was instituted. The great success of her library work, particularly in the establishment of motor transport, gained for her the position as librarian of Kent County library. This will be the first opportunity to welcome the younger librarians of Great Britain to the national meetings. The welcome will not be wanting in pleasure or in spontaneity.

### Better Financial Support

The final success of the efforts of the Public library of the District of Columbia to receive favorable attention from the Congressional committee, to whose tender mercies it has long been subject, is a matter of general gratification to the library craft. It has been openly known for a long time that the good work which the Public library, Washington City, was doing and might further do, was sadly handicapped for lack of money, especially for that which the money could furnish—more trained assistants and more branches and agencies thru which to work. There was sufficient authority in law for branches and other library extension agencies but the lack of generous appropriations on the part of Congress to the library halted action. The law relating to the conduct of the organization of the library has been amended so that it provides for "such number of branch libraries so located and so supported as to furnish books . . . service convenient to all residents of the district."

The other amendment provides for agreements with the Board of Education for the establishment and maintenance of branch libraries in public school buildings.

Another amendment authorizes trustees to erect suitable buildings or parts of buildings for use as branch libraries and distributing stations.

The present practice of loaning books without fees to the residents of

Maryland and Virginia who have regular business or employment or who attend school in the district, has been authorized. Other residents of those states may have library service for a fee of \$3 per year.

Another amendment gives specific authority to the district commissioners to include in their estimates such sums as they may deem necessary for the proper maintenance of the library, purchases of land for library buildings, and the erection and enlargement of library buildings.

Another amendment provides that all receipts from fines and penalties shall be paid into the United States treasury and credited to the district. These receipts amount to nearly \$13,000 annually. This was in the interest of good budgetary practice. Congress will be expected to make up this sum to the library.

In a letter from Mr George F. Bowerman, the matter is set out in detail, particularly the effective features of the campaign for the amended library law, which had final effect on the appropriation spirit. Naturally he is highly pleased to report that the amended library law has been signed by the President. His professional brethren will rejoice with him at this opportunity.

### Just for you

Sometimes days seem dark and drear  
And I fear  
That I've missed a grand career  
Ling'ring here  
Sitting stamping books all day.  
In the most approved way,  
Yet it seems that I must stay  
Just for you.

O, you funny public, we're in love with you,  
Though your fines are many and your books  
are overdue,  
Keep the circulation of our books both old  
and new,  
O, you funny public, we're in love with you.

But now that the A. L. A.  
Makes them know  
That a pension should be ours  
And more dough,  
I tell others who I am,  
I'm the well-paid library man,  
Lending books to all I can,  
Like all of you. —Tri-State Remnants.

### Work of Board of Education for Librarianship

In a recent newspaper interview, a member of the Board of education for librarianship explained the purpose which the board has in view in its endeavors as follows:

The board of education for librarianship has as its purpose the study of such service and promotion of further development of education for librarianship; formulation for the approval of the A. L. A. council of minimum standards for library schools, for summer library courses, for courses on school library work in normal schools and teachers' colleges and in various other agencies; to classify these agencies in accordance with standards adopted and to publish annually a list of accredited agencies.

There is a distinct lack of trained librarians in the country to fill the important positions which are constantly arising and it is to train people for this work that the schools have been established and are being maintained at certain standards. Libraries possessing collections devoted to special subjects are forced to fill positions from outside of the library field because there are in most cases few and in some cases no librarians who have the knowledge of the subject essential to the work. This generally results in placing in charge a custodian who knows and appreciates the collection but does not know how to make it serve the users of the library.

This shortage of librarians has an effect of too rapid promotion of promising beginners, which prevents them from receiving the full benefit of their experience. This condition is endangering the esprit de corps which has always characterized library service, and is tending toward a careless observance of professional ethics.

### Status of Alien Librarians

The Commissioner General of Immigration, in a recent letter, explains the admission of librarians to this country. The letter sets out that citizens of countries to which the quota restrictions do not apply should make application to the Department of Labor for determination as to whether or not the contract labor provisions of that law may be waived. The fact that an exchange of librarians is contemplated does not relieve the incoming alien from the pertinent provisions of law.

Aliens from countries to which the quota does apply will make the same application. A waiver of the contract

labor provisions of the law does not waive the quota restrictions. Such aliens must meet the requirements of the Quota act. Those who desire to come temporarily might be able to secure a non-immigrant visa as coming here temporarily for business or pleasure. However, the question of issuing visas is entirely within the jurisdiction of the State department, thru its consuls.

### Free Postal Rates for Libraries

Mr A. L. Spencer of Savona, New York, who has had such a long and faithful interest in the effort to secure relief from postal charges on books circulated by libraries, continues to work for the bill that is still before Congress, H. R. 10313.

Mr Spencer states that there is no pretense that the bill is an ideal measure but it is an effort to establish the fact that the circulation of library material is a class of parcels demanding separate treatment. The bill has the support of the Grange, Federation of labor, Federation of women's clubs, Parent-teachers, N. E. A., and, most important of all, the Farm bureau. Many individual librarians have supported the movement by influence and money. This is a measure the need for which is growing rather than lessening, and it should have the attention of those in a position to bring the matter to an end by some measure of definite accomplishment.

### Memorial to Librarians

Miss Katherine L. Sharp and Miss May Seymour were well known and valuable factors in the American library circles more than a dozen years ago. Both were compelled to retire from the field thru overwork. Their last days were spent in Lake Placid Club where they gave valuable service in the revision and extension of the additions of the Decimal classifications issued at that time.

The new Lake Placid Club chapel, which is remarkable for its beauty, is to have one of those noted double-lan-



cet chancel Tiffany windows dedicated as a memorial to Miss Sharp and Miss Seymour—one lancet for each. The cost of the window in approved design will be \$2,000. Friends of either who desire to contribute to the memorial may do so by sending funds to H. W. Hicks, Lake Placid Club, or to Mrs. John P. McWilliams, Dwight, Ill.

#### Support of Schools vs. Libraries

Before a recent meeting of California librarians, Mr. Milton J. Ferguson, state librarian, compared the appropriations for public schools and public libraries and called attention to the fact that the former still receive the greater share of attention in the matter of appropriation from public authorities. Mr. Ferguson stated that while appropriations for public schools have increased 400 per cent in the last few years, appropriations for public libraries have only increased 200 per cent.

The maladjustment in such a situation will be very apparent when it is remembered that the public schools serve only a limited, tho to be sure a very important, part of the community. For this they have more money, more workers, larger and better quarters, as well as constant attention from government authorities. The libraries are established to serve the same education of young citizens as are the schools and, in addition, everybody else in the community who will avail himself of the advantages which the library holds out. They are not separate institutions. They are both educational and both are necessary to the intelligent development of the best citizenship, but on account of longer and more intimate acquaintance with the school system on the part of those generally selected for public officials, the schools fare better in the hands of the latter.

The schools, one might say, sow the seed, but it is the libraries that reap the harvest. The library is the best post-graduate school for the average pupil coming from the schools, yet

the support has not kept pace with the support given the schools, and considering that the cost of living has doubled in the last few years, the inequality seems very great.

#### Death's Toll

Lauren W. Ripley, one of the group of librarians who were the pioneers of the California County Library system, died in Oakland, March 8. He was born in Sacramento, April 27, 1864, and was educated in the public schools of that city. While yet in high school, he lost his father, and in 1881 found employment in the Sacramento public library. He became its librarian in 1900 and held that post until 1921. During that time, the fine Carnegie building of that library was constructed, and Mr. Ripley was the person most concerned in it. The commission form of city charter had done away with a board of trustees, and the librarian reported directly to the city council.

In 1908, Mr. Gillis, the state librarian, persuaded the supervisors of Sacramento county to make a trial of his scheme of county libraries by making a contract with the city library to serve the whole county. Mr. Ripley entered into the project whole-heartedly, and the success of the experiment was so pronounced under his management that the legislature of 1909 passed a bill legalizing such a contract, and the county library system began its triumphal march throughout the state. Mr. Ripley was made a trustee of the State library by Governor Hiram Johnson, in 1918, and remained on that Board until its abolition in 1921. After leaving the Sacramento public library, he engaged in the book business in Sacramento until April, 1923, and then removed to Oakland, where he lived the rest of his days.

He was a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West, and of the American Library Association. He was active and prominent in the California library association in all its formative years. At his funeral on March 10, in



Oakland, Joseph C. Rowell, of the University of California library, George T. Clark of Stanford library, and the librarians of Oakland and Alameda County were present to pay respect to an old friend and to a man who had done much for the library cause.

C. S. G.

A note from Dr Bostwick reports the death of Governor Hsiao Yao Nan of the province of Hupeh, who died suddenly in Wuchang, capitol city of that province, February 14. Governor Hsiao took a foremost part in the movement that resulted in the visit of Dr Bostwick as a representative of the A. L. A. to China, and his assistance during the delegate's mission was extremely enthusiastic and helpful. Thru him, everywhere courtesy was offered, much honor was conferred and every convenience possible was placed at Dr Bostwick's disposal during the entire time.

As reported in the papers, much confusion and violent uprising has taken place in the province of Hupeh in the last few months, and it is possible that Governor Hsiao, who opposed plans of the dictator Wu Pei Fu, fell a victim, altho, according to the Chinese newspapers, he "became sick with heart trouble and died." Dr Bostwick concludes:

In all probability, this is simply a euphemism for assassination, and this able official, an active friend of the new library movement in China, thus fell a victim to his disinclination to further the plans of one of the warlords who are now doing their best to discredit their native land in the eyes of the world.

#### A Page of Information

Attention is called to the material on page 232 as a useful piece of information for those who do reference work. It was prepared for a class in reference work by the library school of New York public library and has received the approval of a number of those interested in that work. Reprints will be made of it if it is interesting to a sufficient number to make its reprinting worth while.

#### Soliloquy of the Smockless

(With apologies to W. S.)

To smock, or not to smock, that is the question,  
Whether it were neater on the clothes to suffer  
The dirt and soilage of librarious dust,  
Or to take arms against a horde of microbes,  
And by a smock escape them. To choose, to  
buy,

To wear, and by that step to say we end  
The brushing of the thousand natural spots  
That clothes are heir to. T'is a consummation  
Devoutly to be wished. To buy, to wear;  
To wear, perchance to wash! Aye there's the  
rub;

For in the laundry what dire ills may come  
When we have shuffled off this grimy garb  
Must give us pause. There's the respect  
That makes calamity of cleanliness.

For who would bear the dust and dirt of  
stack,

The calf-skin's smudge, the "rare book's" an-  
cient taint,

The pamphlet's unclean page, the ink pot's  
blot,

If she herself might final riddance make  
With a cheap cover? Who would pay the bills  
Of cleansers, and of tailors charging much,  
But that the dread of what the laundry does,  
That washerwoman, from whose splashy tub,  
No dress returns as sent, palsies the will  
And makes us rather wear the clothes we have,  
Than put on other clothes to be destroyed.  
Thus laundries do make cowards of us all.

EDITH R. BLANCHARD

(In *The Hay-Stack* of the Brown University  
library)

#### Of the Making of Books

Through a Commerce and Industries report for 1925 sent to U. S. State department from England, it is learned that in spite of economic depression, trade strikes and other adversities, more books were published in 1925 than in any previous year in the history of British book production, a total of 13,202 books. This is an increase of 496 over 1924. This increase took place in new books as distinguished from new editions. There were fewer translations, fewer pamphlets, but an increase in new editions. The increase was distributed as follows: juvenile literature, 108 increase; law 88; military and naval 74; philology 60; biography 55; agriculture and gardening 46; and science 32, with smaller increases in most of the other classes. Decreases are noted: in general works

49; fine arts 44; fiction 32; philosophy 29; poetry and drama 16. The decrease in fiction was due to new editions, the new fiction showing a rise of 77.

### Reading

Do you read, and what? Apparently a foolish question if you are a consistent reader, but you would be appalled to know the number of persons who never read in this supposedly literate country of ours. It may seem unbelievable to you that there are vast numbers of homes into which a newspaper of any kind never appears, and in which books are unknown. Study the illiteracy statistics of some of our states, add to the number of those who cannot read a fair estimate of those who can but do not. Then you will begin to understand how easy it is for bigotry and intolerance periodically to sweep over the country like flames through a pine forest.

Now, back to yourself. Are you posted on the current controversies, erroneous beliefs, political movements, historic events, all of which must in some measure affect the lives and the full enjoyment of the rights of men? Can you answer intelligently and satisfactorily the questions of your neighbor concerning things which he rightly expects you to know? You cannot unless you read much and studiously. Almost axiomatic with the schoolboy is Bacon's observance upon the subject:

Reading maketh a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man.

Cowper makes another observation:

Did charity prevail, the press would prove a vehicle of virtue, truth and love.

From Goldsmith we get another pertinent statement:

In a polite age almost every person becomes a reader, and receives more instruction from the press than the pulpit.

Comment is hardly necessary; it is obvious that you cannot fully perform your obligations to society unless you are informed, and correctly.—*The Bengalese, February, 1926.*

### Catalog Notes

At a recent cataloging round table I found a number of suggestions given that seemed to me worth while for catalogers to think about, particularly those that are not members of large cataloging departments and where conferences, suggestions and readings are not everyday occurrences. I thought if they were put in print somewhere it would be a helpful thing to catalogers of small libraries.

The following books were mentioned as being helpful to the catalogers in the small colleges and small public libraries:

The A. L. A. catalog, Century cyclopedia of names, *Accumulative Book-Index*.

Comment was made on the inconsistency in the headings used in the H. W. Wilson Company indexes. The fact was strongly emphasized that much care should be used in following these heads in library cataloging lest much confusion follow.

A very helpful discussion emphasized the value of coöperation of other departments of the library with the cataloging department. The coöperation of the reference and circulation departments occupied a chief place. Where there is close relation between those at work in the catalog department and those at work in the reference and circulating departments, anticipatory knowledge is obtained of books being used in schools and public movements, and books in demand may be cataloged immediately upon their receipt, thus facilitating the work of the other two departments.

A. TUCKER

If we are to take up the threads of life by the farther ends only, we shall never begin to live, for only those which lie next us can ever be in our hands. To grasp at ultimate truth is to be forever empty handed. To reach for the ultimate end of action is never to begin to act.—*David Starr Jordan.*

Education is simply the soul of society as it passes from one generation to another.—G. K. Chesterton.



### A Birthday on the Radio

The Public Library of Clay Center, Neb., celebrated its sixteenth anniversary, January 26. Clay Center is a town of 965 population. It is levying the maximum legal tax, which brings the library an income slightly exceeding one dollar per capita.

The president of the Library board, H. H. Johnson, recently installed in Clay Center a radio station at a cost of \$50,000. In planning for their sixteenth anniversary, the librarian, Bertha F. Jessup, thought that a broadcasting program would make a unique celebration. Accordingly, Mr Johnson invited Nellie Williams, secretary of the Nebraska public library commission, to give a message to the librarians of Nebraska from station KMMJ.

Miss Williams accepted the invitation and spoke in part as follows:

We are having a birthday party in Clay Center tonight. The library is celebrating its sixteenth birthday. By the courtesy of Mr H. H. Johnson, president of the Library board, I am having my first chance to greet by radio the librarians of the state and any others who may be listening in. You know, it is to individuals who are thus friendly to the libraries that so much gratitude is due, for thru their interest and help we have been able to accomplish much more than we could have done otherwise.

This is a special anniversary year for the Nebraska public library commission, too, it being the twenty-fifth year of its life. It means a silver anniversary, doesn't it? Well, we could use some silver to advantage.

The American Library Association is also going to have a special birthday party this year. It is its fiftieth anniversary which will be celebrated in October in Philadelphia, where the first meeting was held 50 years ago.

With all these birthday occasions it is only natural that we take a backward look as well as a look ahead. Sixteen years ago when the Clay Center library had its beginning, there were 54 Nebraska towns maintaining libraries by tax. At that time there was no law providing for township or county libraries. There are now 128 tax-supported libraries in Nebraska, 16 of which are township libraries. No county in Nebraska has as yet made books available to everyone in the county by establishing a county library. This is a goal which we have set for ourselves. May some county soon reach it!

Sixteen years ago a library building program was well under way in Nebraska. There were 18 Carnegie libraries at that time. Nebraska now has 68 library buildings as the result of gifts from Mr Carnegie or the Carnegie Corporation. There are also 14 libraries built by bequests from individual sources. Tho the Corporation has definitely discontinued all appropriations for library buildings, because it feels that its work in that line has been accomplished, it has by no means abandoned its interest in library service. As proof of this, the Corporation is now giving funds to the American Library Association for several library projects.

These twenty-five years bear witness to growth in libraries established and in books loaned. From twenty-four tax-supported libraries in Nebraska in 1901, we have grown to 128 in 1926, in the organization of which the Library commission has assisted. The commission has an ever-increasing call for books. From hundreds of towns and thousands of individuals in town and country, come requests for reading matter which the commission supplies as consistently as possible with available resources.

A librarian in a foreign country writes: "When I see such library work being done, I realize how greatly the world of thinkers and students is indebted to your country."

A matter vital to the general library cause and to the future service to the people of the state by this department is that of the postal rate on library books. The rate proposed by the Joint Postal committee on cost of carrying mails is prohibitive. There is a library post campaign now on. Appeal is made to librarians to help. Write congressmen and senators urging them to give their support to the cause of a fair rate for carrying books to and from libraries. You are also solicited to contribute 10 cents or more to help finance the library post campaign. "The number of contributors is quite as important, as showing national support, as the amount." Everyone can send at least five two-cent stamps and thus be a part of the "Noble company of prophets of a better day for library extension." Send anything from 10 cents to \$2 to Alfred L. Spencer, Library Post Campaign, Savona, New York.

The president of the A. L. A., Mr Belden of the Boston public library, says: "The main object of the fiftieth anniversary is not to point with pride to past achievement but to bring to libraries the recognition they deserve and to aid libraries in creating a public sentiment which will make for greater achievement in the future." It should be the aim of librarians and library trustees to make the library more generally felt as a democratic institution with an educational purpose. Every library should at-



tempt to approach the standard set by Dr Learned of the Carnegie Corporation when he says: "The library will be a center as familiar to every inhabitant as the local post-office and as inevitably patronized. It will constitute the central intelligence center of the town not only for 'polite' literature but for every commercial and vocational field of information that it may prove practicable to enter."

Again I extend greetings from the Clay Center library.

Following the broadcasting, a ceremonial arranged by the librarian was conducted at the library in the presence of members of the Women's club. Within a holly wreath were three unlighted candles, representing the past, the present and the future. The first librarian of the Clay Center library lighted the candle of the past, speaking of the days when there was no Carnegie building. The library was then little more than a traveling library station to which the Nebraska public library commission loaned books. The light was carried from the past to the present by a taper given to a present day patron of the library who spoke appreciatively of the service it renders. The representative of the present passed the taper to Miss Williams who, in lighting the third candle, spoke of the library's future opportunities and obligations.

The library spirit was abroad in the town. At the close of the ceremonial, a silver offering was presented to the library in behalf of the school children who wished to be a part of the celebration.

#### Another Record of Creditable Work

The library staff of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, gave a dinner, March 17, to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the librarian, Louis R. Wilson, in his present position.

Under his management, the library has grown from 32,000v. in 1901 to 155,000v. serving the student body of 2300, and is now the largest library in the Southeast. It maintains a vigorous extension service in every county of the state, and for a number

of years Dr Wilson has taught courses in library economy. The vision of a large new building is found in plans for one costing over \$1,000,000.

The intellectual progress of North Carolina has owed much to Dr Wilson's enthusiasm and hard work. He was one of the founders of the State library association in 1904, served as its secretary until 1909, and its president in 1909-10 and again in 1921-23. The establishment of the State library commission, of which he was chairman from 1909 to 1916, was due largely to his efforts. In 1907, he was instrumental in bringing the A. L. A. to Asheville for its only meeting in the Southeast. He is at present chairman of the Southeastern library association and will preside over its second biennial conference at Signal Mountain, Tennessee, April 22-24.

Dr Wilson's outside interests have included his work as director of the university's extension bureau, 1912-21, editor of the *North Carolina Alumni Review*, 1912-24, and director of the University Press since 1922. He is the author of an authoritative manual on the high-school library and a bulletin issued by the U. S. bureau of education dealing with extension work in North Carolina, as well as numerous articles in library and other periodicals.

#### Book Publications, 1925

Some 9,574 books were published in the United States during 1925. They were classified by subject as follows:

Home economics 53; Music 89; Agriculture 168; Law 187; Business 286; Medicine 326; Travel 438; History 459; Literature 1219; Biography 561; Sociology and economics 597; Religion 885; Fiction 1431.—*Library Lantern*, U. N. H.

The issue of the *News-Bulletin* of the National Bureau of Economic Research, New York City, is devoted to the increase in population in the United States since the last census and to the question of the immigration quota, etc. A ratio of births and deaths gives interesting information for reference room.

**American Library Association****Notes and news**

The official statement of the recent gift to the A. L. A. is as follows:

Four million dollars has been set aside for library purposes, payable over a ten-year period, by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

One million is to endow a graduate school of librarianship in some great university, yet to be named. Another million is to provide an annual income which will be used to aid other library schools. The third million is for general endowment of the American Library Association. The income will be used by the association in promoting the extension and development of library service.

The fourth million will be used in carrying on the general activities of the association and in aiding library schools until the three million endowment, in cumulating capital grants, is completed.

In a statement explaining the grant President F. P. Keppel of the Carnegie Corporation expressed the hope that this would specifically enable the association to develop more intensively the small library service. "Of all his benefactions the one nearest Mr Carnegie's heart was the small library," said Dr Keppel.

In announcing the acceptance of the million dollars given for the endowment of the American Library Association, Charles F. D. Belden, president of the association, states that this gift is to be considered as the first contribution toward the endowment fund which the association intends to raise in this its fiftieth anniversary year.

The following committee has been appointed by the A. L. A. executive board to study the possibilities of further endowment for the A. L. A.:

Edwin H. Anderson, chairman, Clement W. Andrews, Harrison W. Craver, Linda A. Eastman, Milton J. Ferguson, Judson T. Jennings, George H. Locke, Thomas L. Montgomery, Adam Strohm, President Charles F. D. Belden, ex-officio.

The Winnetka graded book list is now the A. L. A.'s "best seller." It is

the report of a careful study of what nearly 37,000 children read and said they liked, in the school year of 1924-25.

The coöperating children live in 34 towns and cities scattered over the country. Rural villages, industrial communities, large cities, suburban towns and college towns were all included in the list. The method of collecting and using data was carefully checked by scientific workers in the field of education.

Children's librarians were consulted freely. At the very beginning of the study, a conference of children's librarians was held with Dr Washburne and his assistant, Miss Vogel, at A. L. A. headquarters. Present at that conference were two officers of the Children's Librarians section and half a dozen other children's librarians from the vicinity of Chicago. Many suggestions made at the meeting were incorporated in the plan for the study.

The findings, in some cases, are surprising. They seem inconsistent at many points with generally accepted standards in library work. A careful study of the introduction will explain some of the apparent or actual inconsistencies. Others, it may be hoped, will lead to further studies of a similar sort in the future.

This book does not supersede the Graded list of books for children, which is to be issued in a new edition within the next year or two. One is a report of a careful study for anyone interested in what children read and like; the other is a list of books recommended for purchase for school libraries.

Miss Jennie M. Flexner, head of the circulation department, Public library, Louisville, Ky., has joined the staff of Prof Charters, University of Chicago, in whose charge the A. L. A. has placed the library curriculum study. Out of consultation, observation and work for six months, Miss Flexner will write a textbook for the circulation department. This is a field which has been governed by a few general axioms.

Someone has said, "Anyone on a staff who is not prepared to do reference work, not pretty enough for the children's room, and not sufficiently well educated to do cataloging is, generally, assigned here." If a textbook is prepared, perhaps there will be a different psychology evolved for the circulation department.

Some points brought out in the recent council meeting were:

Section 23a, of the A. L. A. constitution states: All the powers of the association not otherwise provided for in the by-laws shall be vested in the council.

The provisional minimum standards for library training and apprentice classes offered by the Board of education for librarianship were adopted.

Exclusive of the \$25,000 balance in the War fund and the fiftieth anniversary contributions, the A. L. A. is committed to an expenditure for the present fiscal year of the sum of \$365,000. Of this, \$135,000 comes from membership dues and sales of A. L. A. publications. The rest are special grants. The work of the Board of Education now costs \$30,000 a year. It will apparently need about the same sum for the next few years.

Plans for the program and affairs of the fiftieth anniversary conference of the association in Atlantic City and Philadelphia are beginning to take shape. Tentative outlines are being made for a conference sermon on Sunday night, October 3, by some distinguished lecturer. It is too early to announce programs but at the anniversary session to be held in Philadelphia on October 6, Dr Melvil Dewey is scheduled to be present and give a short address. Mr R. R. Bowker has consented to speak also.

This meeting will be held at the Drexel Institute, and in the afternoon a reception will be given by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, after which special trains will convey the delegates back to Atlantic City.

Hotel reservations should be made as early as possible. A. L. A. head-

quarters will be at the Ambassador; the League of library commissions will be at the Ritz-Carlton; the Special libraries association and the National association of state libraries will be at Chelsea.

All the hotels are on the board walk.

#### Pre-conference European trip

The Travel committee of the A. L. A. has received sufficient first payments on the European trip to insure the party's going.

The enormous travel to Europe next summer requires as early booking as possible for any who wish to join this six-weeks personally-conducted trip to England, Scotland, Belgium and France. The price, including everything but passports and tips and extras on steamers and at hotels, is \$580, using third-class student staterooms, leaving New York on the SS Caronia, August 21, returning on SS Tuscania to arrive in New York, October 3. Reservations should be made before April 30. Folder giving full particulars and itinerary may be had on application to F. W. Faxon, chairman, A. L. A. travel committee, 83 Francis St., Boston, Mass.

#### The A. L. A. Fiftieth Anniversary Exhibits

The Philadelphia exhibit of the A. L. A. will be comprehensive and carefully prepared. Working demonstrations of several sorts will be in operation.

Contributions, interesting photographs, diagrams, samples, lists and brief statements, showing work in its various phases are invited. To avoid waste of time or material, consider these suggestions:

1. Each library should decide what are the outstanding pieces of work which it is doing, or effective methods it has originated for handling the various parts of the work and illustrations of these should be sent in.

2. Photographs are wanted, which will show effectively the work of the library with its patrons. Except of buildings which seem noteworthy, pic-

tures of buildings and interiors which do not show readers using the library, need not be sent.

3. Material indicating various procedures by which libraries carry on their work in an economical and business-like manner, such as diagrams of the arrangement of work and its division among assistants, etc., and material showing conditions and methods of 40 or 50 years ago, are requested.

4. All material is to be sent in unmounted form, carefully wrapped and stiffened so that the edges may not be injured. Every piece should be marked with name of library and brief title. It is hoped that no material will need to be returned to individual libraries. At the close of the Exposition, the material will be shipped to A. L. A. headquarters for various uses. It is specifically understood that the material from any library will not be exhibited "en bloc" as featuring that library, but will be displayed under its proper headings.

5. All material should be sent in prepaid just as soon as possible to Franklin H. Price, Business agent, care Passyunk branch library, Twentieth and Shunk Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., marked "Hold for A. L. A. Exhibit." If there is any question about the desirability of special items, inquiry can be made of Miss Mabel C. True, A. L. A. Headquarters, 86 E. Randolph St., Chicago.

#### News of Naval Interests

The United States Naval institute is an organization made up largely of naval officers, in which those concerned with matters of international law and diplomacy, developments in aeronautics, and the events of immediate interest to the naval profession give serious attention.

The official organ is issued monthly under the title *U. S. Naval Institute Proceedings*. It is a beautifully gotten up periodical of some 200 pages. Its contents are written by naval officers or men closely associated with the navy, and are undoubtedly of decided interest and value to students of naval affairs and to the general public. It

is of especial value as giving the points of view of those connected with naval affairs, garbled accounts of which are to be found in the daily newspapers. As a mere matter of furnishing information on ships, past, present and proposed, and the personal ideas and professional outlook of the personnel of the navy, the *United States Naval Institute Proceedings* is entitled to a place on the shelves of the libraries.

There is a desire on the part of many of those interested in the proceedings in having a wider distribution of the periodical among the libraries of the country. No one has any financial interest in the publication. It is intended very specially for the benefit and use of the officials of the navy, and, second, for the information and education of the public. The libraries can aid materially in this.

A request for a sample copy addressed to R. J. Duval, librarian of the United States Naval academy, Annapolis, Maryland, will bring a ready response.

Miss Hilda J. Alsith, librarian of the Engineering library, University of Illinois, has made a report in the *Journal of Engineering Education* on what engineering colleges are doing to encourage students to read. She says that "few schools are doing anything systematic in the way of encouraging general reading among engineering students," but that most schools are beginning to be interested. Her report is based on a questionnaire sent to all representative engineering schools in the United States.

Librarians will be interested in the proposed issues from the new Argonaut Press which will reissue travel books of outstanding merit selected irrespective both of locality and nationality. Of special interest to the American contingent will be the first issue, The world encompassed by Sir Francis Drake, reprinted from the edition of 1628. This will be a limited edition and its sale will be a sort of test of appreciation of the efforts of the publishers in their new venture. The Argonaut Press is in London.



## Illinois Library Association

### Program announcements

For the annual convention of the Illinois library association to be held at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, May 12-14, an interesting program has been arranged, some details of which at this writing are still to be worked out. On the evening of May 13, Mr Carl Sandberg is to speak on the life of Abraham Lincoln. At another meeting, probably after luncheon, Mr Harry Hansen of *Harper's Magazine* and the *Chicago Daily News* will talk, most appropriately for the place, on "Romance of early exploration in Southern Illinois."

Mt. Vernon is the home of Louis L. Emmerson, Illinois secretary of state and state librarian. Mr Emmerson has kindly consented to address the convention at the first evening meeting on his impressions of South America, a continent he has recently visited.

The Children's section is to be addressed by both Miss Hazeltine of the St. Louis library school and by Miss Boyd of the University of Illinois.

Mr Windsor, librarian of the University of Illinois is in charge of the College and Reference section. A program for the Trustees' section is being arranged.

The Lending section, in charge of Miss Della Steurnagel of Belleville offers the following program:

Adult education: are we meeting the challenge? Lucy Parke Williams, Bloomington.

Burbanking the loan desk service. Mildred H. Crewe, Highland Park.

Creating public opinion for the library. Florence Davison, Evanston.

Newspaper publicity from an editor's point of view. Miss Mary Davidson, trustee, Carthage public library, editor *Carthage Republican*.

Other features of the program will be:

Salesmanship as applied to library book circulation, by Mr Earl Browning, librarian, Peoria public library.

Miss Julia Wright Merrill of the A. L. A. Library Extension committee will speak on some of her observations on county libraries

### Motor bus plans

For the convenience of those who wish to take it, a motor bus excursion to Mt. Vernon has been arranged from

Chicago. The busses carrying 26 passengers will leave from the Randolph Street entrance to the Chicago public library, Randolph and Michigan Ave. The itinerary of the party is as follows:

Leave Chicago, 8:00 a. m., Tuesday, May 11, passing thru Lamont, Joliet, Wilmington, Dwight, Pontiac.

Arrive Bloomington (Luncheon), 12:30.

Leave Bloomington, 1:15 p. m., Clinton, Decatur, Macon, Moweaqua, Pana.

Arrive Vandalia (Dinner), 5:30 p. m.

Leave Vandalia, 6:15 p. m.

Arrive Mt. Vernon, 8:45 p. m., Tuesday, May 11.

The return trip after the meeting will be as follows:

Leave Mt. Vernon, 3:00 p. m., Friday, May 14. Ashley, Nashville, Belleville, Cahokia (Mounds and dinner), E. St. Louis.

Arrive St. Louis, 6:30 p. m. (Hotel, breakfast, luncheon).

Leave St. Louis, 12:30 p. m., Saturday, May 15. Granite City, Edwardsville, Staunton, Carlinville, Verden.

Arrive Springfield (Dinner, hotel, breakfast), 4:30 p. m., Saturday, May 15.

Leave Springfield, 8:00 a. m., Sunday. Lincoln, Bloomington, Minonk, Winona, LaSalle, Ottawa (Luncheon).

Arrive Starved Rock, 1:00 p. m., Sunday, May 15.

Leave Starved Rock, 4:00 p. m., Joliet (Dinner), 6:30 p. m.

Leave Joliet, 7:00 p. m., Sunday, May 16. Arrive Chicago, 9 p. m.

Accommodations in Mt. Vernon are at the Emmerson hotel; in St. Louis at the Marquette hotel; in Springfield at the Abraham Lincoln hotel.

The cost for this trip is based on the price of hotel accommodations at the following rates: St. Louis and Springfield \$3.00 per day for single room with bath—two persons in room with bath \$4.00.

Single rooms with bath not available at Mt. Vernon, but double rooms with bath are to be had at \$4.00.

The trip from Mt. Vernon to St. Louis will be made by way of Cahokia, the Mounds, and the old French settlement, and dinner will be served at French Inn in Cahokia. Thus the party will have an opportunity to visit the Illinois mound region, the subject of Mr Hansen's lecture at the convention.

Only space for a suit case of ordinary size is provided.

Friends of members of the association will be welcome to join the party.

The cost of the trip, including hotel accommodations at Mt. Vernon, St. Louis and Springfield, two in a room with bath, will

be \$30.50 per passenger—single room with bath at a slightly increased cost. This rate does not include meals. The schedule rates for meals at all hotels and stopping places enroute are 75c for breakfast—\$1 for lunch and \$1.25-\$1.50 for dinner.

The entire expense of attendance at the convention, together with the motor bus trip will cost between \$45 and \$50 a person, a low rate for a six day excursion thru some of the most interesting points in the state. It is an additional expense of only \$5 to \$10 for an unusual and enjoyable, an interesting and instructive trip.

The busses must be filled—26 persons to a car. Those joining party at intermediate points must pay the Chicago rate.

Applications for space for this trip must be accompanied by a \$10 deposit. If it should develop that not enough persons register for this trip prior to May 9, the plan will be abandoned and deposits will be returned. Register with John F. Phelan, Chicago public library, chairman, Travel committee.

### Library Meetings

**Atlantic City, N. J.**—The thirtieth annual library meeting held in Atlantic City, March 5-6, had an attendance of over 350 librarians.

The New Jersey library association voted to omit the fall meeting in view of the A. L. A. meeting in Atlantic City in October. The association voted to contribute \$100 to the A. L. A. anniversary fund.

The officers of the New Jersey association for the coming year are: Margaret Jackson, Chatham, president; Henry B. Van Hoesen, Princeton university, vice-president; Dorothy A. Pinneo, Newark, secretary, and Howard L. Hughes, Trenton, treasurer; member of the executive board, retiring president, Edith H. Crowell, Perth Amboy.

A pleasant social event of the conference was the tea given Saturday afternoon in honor of Mrs Charles Corliss, the charming Anne Parrish of Perennial Bachelor fame.

DOROTHY E. BURROWS  
Secretary

**Boston**—The Special Libraries association of Boston met March 29 at the plant of the Dennison Mfg. Co. in

Framingham with about 50 in attendance.

During the afternoon, the group was conducted by guides thruout the plant where crêpe paper, tags, boxes etc. were seen in the process of manufacture. The variety of the product and the beauty of it, together with the automatic machinery in use gave the librarians a distinctly interesting experience.

The library with its 3000 volumes was especially interesting to the special librarians. Mr Mooney, librarian, had some figures showing that the non-fiction circulation had increased very considerably in the last year and that the tendency of the library was to enlarge its non-fictional content rather than its fictional. Magazine circulation last year was as high as 1100 a month. Besides having a page of book notices in each issue of the plant paper, *The Round Robin*, there is a publication called *Library Review* with book reviews which has a circulation of about 300 among the executives of the plant.

The Dennison Co. is maintaining a history room of very great value and interest. Here are found pictures, samples, etc. of the Dennison product from the time of the organization of the company to date.

The association, as guests of the Dennison Co., were served dinner. The tables were covered with Dennison paper cloths; Dennison napkins and place cards were at each plate and also complimentary copies of instructions for the making of lamp shades and other novelties.

After dinner, the meeting was adjourned to an assembly room where J. S. Keir, economic adviser to the directors of the company described the Dennison partnership plan, which has proved successful.

It eliminates absentee ownership and gives those who are actually engaged in the work of the company a voice in its operation.

C. L. BECK

**Chicago**—At the regular monthly meeting of the Chicago library club held Thursday evening, April 1, Eugene F. McPike of Chicago, spoke on Ido, the scientific international language.

Mr McPike gave in some detail the history of attempts for an international language, showing that it had occupied the attention of scholars and investigators for three centuries. Ido would prove an immense help to scholars and statesmen, and in the present rapid development of radio it would facilitate communication especially between this country and Europe. Foreigners may learn English but Americans are not ready to master eight or ten languages to get the messages from Europe. The need is for an auxiliary language that shall be simple, regular, precise, logical, euphonious and phonetic.

By the use of slides, Mr McPike gave several examples, rules and methods of word building, reading in the Ido and translating. Being largely of Latin root, one quite readily followed him as he read and it was interesting to see how easily the forms could be reasoned out. As Ido is written in the regular alphabet, having no accent marks, it may be printed readily, used on the ordinary typewriter or with the Morse code. To illustrate the euphony and rhythm of this international language, Mr. McPike read Lincoln's Gettysburg address rendered in Ido.

G. E. DOWLE,  
Secretary

**Cleveland**—At the last meeting of the Library club of Cleveland and vicinity, Prof P. D. Sherman of Oberlin college chatted in an informal way on his experiences at Longfellow's home, poking about his library, examining class-room books, manuscripts and other little known relics.

The story of his invitation to tea with Miss Marie Corelli, and reception by that regal lady, when she offered her hand to be kissed and he said

that he didn't care to kiss it, left us gasping for breath.

A bit of R. L. Stevenson's playing at being the Admiral of the Swiss navy throughout the Pacific islands was given to us to add to our intimate knowledge of the author, as well as Thomas Hardy's desire to be known as a poet.

MARY H. CLARK

**Massachusetts**—The mid-year meeting of the Western Massachusetts library club was held at Forbes library, March 11, 1926. With various libraries represented and an attendance of about 100, the meeting was in every respect a success.

Judge Henry P. Field, president of the Forbes library board of trustees, in an address of welcome said that the aims and policies of the first librarian, the late Charles A. Cutter, was responsible, in a large measure, for the success of this library today.

A list of books from current publications is prepared by the club each year and offered for consideration at the annual meeting. H. R. Hunting of Springfield opened the discussion with a paper on The novel of today and gave suggestions on the suppression of the objectionable novel. In speaking of the dangerous policy thru advertising books as being banned by censors, Mr Hunting emphasized the duty of the librarian to give them the least possible publicity and to stimulate curiosity in worth while reading.

Following a specially arranged "get-together" luncheon, the afternoon session was devoted to an address on The book-trade in the time of Queen Elizabeth, by Miss Esther C. Dunn, Ph. D., Smith college. Miss Dunn spoke not only on the book trade of that day but told also of the old libraries and especially of the noted Bodlian library. The atmosphere of Elizabethan days was delightfully and interestingly brought to her listeners and some rare books at Forbes were shown in connection with her address.

NETTIE B. SCHMITTER,

#### From New Zealand

A recent letter from Mr Herbert Baillie, librarian, Public library, Wellington, New Zealand, tells of a new lease of life taken on by the Library association of New Zealand.

"This was decided at a meeting of those interested, which was held at Dunedin during January, where 15 libraries were represented. Officers were elected for the coming year and plans made for future work. The president is Miss Melville, a councillor of the City of Auckland and chairman of its library committee. The honorable secretary is Herbert Baillie, librarian of Wellington. As the majority of library workers are women, we deemed it appropriate to elect Miss Melville, and, besides, she is much interested in library work. A meeting will be held at Wanganui in February, 1927. This place is the smallest city in New Zealand around which are many small libraries which it is hoped to have represented at the meeting. We intend to get in touch with the A. L. A. and its members for our future good. Perhaps an A. L. A. may be touring the Pacific about that time, and he, or she, may fit in the Wanganui date."

"Among other things, we arranged for terms from the booksellers to libraries—especially to the advantage of smaller libraries—but the booksellers stipulate that the libraries, to obtain these rates, must be members of the library association."

#### Coming meetings

The annual meeting of the Iowa library association will be held at Iowa City, July 6-8.

The Kentucky library association will hold its annual meeting at the State university, Lexington, May 13-14.

The third annual conference of the Special Libraries and Information Bureaus association will be held at Balliol college, Oxford, England, September 24-27, 1926. Accommodation is limited, so early application is essential.

The Ohio state library association will hold five two-day meetings in May

in different parts of the state for discussion of the practical problems of public libraries. On account of the meeting of the A. L. A., the annual meeting of the Ohio association will not be held and these district meetings will take its place. Those scheduled for May are: May 4-5, Massillon, Northeast district; May 6-7, Cleveland, North central district; May 12-13, Toledo, Northwest district.

The Nebraska library association is holding several district meetings this year instead of a state meeting. There will be speakers, but for the most part, these conferences will be informal with time for free discussion of library problems. Librarians are asked to attend the meeting most accessible to them, but they are cordially invited to attend more than one, if location makes it possible. The meetings will be held at North Platte, May 7; Norfolk, May 14; Alliance, May 21; Superior, May 28.

#### Interesting Things in Print

Literature of the Coal Industry for 1925 by E. H. McClelland, is the latest publication of the Technology department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

A book that will undoubtedly be of value in a number of ways is entitled *First 500 titles for a hospital library*, issued by the United States Veterans bureau.

A new edition of *Stories to tell to children* has just been issued by the children's department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh. This is one of the most popular pamphlets the Pittsburgh library has ever published, the present revision being the fourth since 1916. New titles have been added, and the sources of stories have been revised.

Recent issues of *Brooklyn*, the publication of the Brooklyn Chamber of commerce, contain interesting articles on the history and work of the Medical society of the County of Kings, N. Y. Another article of interest to the medical librarians appeared in the *Long Island Medical Journal* entitled *How to*



consult the medical library and medical literature. This has been issued as a reprint.

The farmer's spending money is one of the subjects reported in detail in a book entitled *Income in the various states*, just issued by the National Bureau of Economic Research, New York City.

How much the Iowa farmer, for example, makes in different years, and how much he spends, and what he spends it for, each year, is told. Conditions in different states are compared. Conditions in different industrial groups are compared.

The complete report covers 48 states and the District of Columbia. The book has 306 p., 67 tables, 17 maps and charts.

Boeckel, Florence Brewer, *comp.* Through the gateway, v. 1. (Books of goodwill) Washington, D. C., 532 Seventeenth Street, N. W., National council for prevention of war, 1925. 118p. illus paper, 50c.

This is the first volume of a series of "Books of goodwill," designed for use in teaching higher patriotism. It games and suggestions for projects includes stories, poems, pageants, that not only carry out the idea of world unity but show a real understanding of children's interests. This should prove useful to parents, teachers and social workers. Excellent make-up with sufficient margins to insure replacing the paper cover with a more substantial binding.

*The Gold Star List of American Fiction, 1821-1926*, published by the Syracuse public library, Syracuse, N. Y., has been issued recently. The foreword states that this year a number of stories by Canadian authors selected with the aid of the Toronto public library has been added as they are clearly a part of the romance and history of North America. The booklet is made interesting by brief characterizations of the novels and by supplementary lists of books, divided according to subject, place and historical period. The usual territory map is on the cover.

A Bibliography of bookplate literature, just published by George W. Fuller, librarian of the Spokane public library, is a notable book in its field, and with its usefulness there is combined beauty in its makeup. The publication is a survey of the entire subject of bookplate literature, and it should appeal to art lovers, collectors and libraries, since the biographical information is full and explicit. The bibliography is the work of Mrs Verna B. Grimm, formerly a member of the Spokane public library staff. Mr Fuller is the editor and publisher. "Some random thoughts on bookplate literature" are submitted by Winward Prescott. In addition to the bibliography proper there is a supplementary list of books containing material of value on bookplates, and an excellent index arranged by subjects and countries. This is a useful and attractive book.

The *Bulletin* of the Boston public library has appeared in a new dress and under a new name. The *Bulletin* was established in 1867 and has carried since the sort of information about the Boston public library that book people and those interested in local problems of Boston's book life must have found very interesting. The introduction to the new form states that the foreword of the first *Bulletin* might be reprinted today without the change of a word, since the purpose is the same. "The first introduction was more than a mere announcement. It was a program which those best acquainted with the Boston public library will say has been faithfully carried out." The new *Bulletin* has the title *More Books, Being the Bulletin of the Boston Public Library*.

It contains several well-written articles, one, "John Adams among his books" which not only gives interesting information about John Adams, the hundredth anniversary of whose death is celebrated this year, but many extracts from his writings which show, of course, most clearly the character of the man. Michel de Montaigne shares with John Adams a place of interest. A list of his works in the library and books about Montaigne are

very interestingly presented. Ten outstanding books are discussed, presentations from a dozen current magazines and a selected, classified list of books recently added to the library make up a very interesting, dignified bulletin with strong appeal to readers.

The college president, Charles Franklin Thwing, president emeritus, Western Reserve university and Adelbert college. Mac-Millan Co., N. Y.

The college president occupies a very important place in American education. He is in a position of authority and leadership. His opinion on all sorts of subjects is eagerly sought and generally carries considerable weight. He comes to his position from the professional chair, the pulpit and occasionally from business. In general he has had no particular training for the duties he assumes.

President Thwing from his wide scholarship, his rich experience as a college president, and his extensive acquaintance with the college presidents in America and England speaks with authority. He discusses the president under the heads—Relations, as an officer and as a personality, Perils, Rewards, and the Future of the office. All these chapters are very interesting and most illuminating.

The book has a wide appeal. The college "Board" looking for a president will find it a good guide. He, who aspires to a college presidency, will avoid many pitfalls if he heeds its admonitions. The faculty member who reads it will have more sympathy for his chief. The public will find in it a chance to understand the breadth and depth of the president's work. All in all, it is a notable book, worthy of a place in any library.

R. J. A.

A commendable effort by the Public library, Youngstown, Ohio, was the compilation and publishing of an abbreviated form of Dr W. J. Long's *America: A history of our country*, just issued in Slovak. The history put out by the library was translated by Mr Mraz, editor of the *Youngstown Slovak News*, and appeared in the weekly issues of that paper. The volume has 248 pages, packed full of

what, judged from the pictures, are the high lights and interesting parts of the history of America.

Mr Wheeler, librarian of the Youngstown library, says of the book that "the need for it has been very marked. The greatest care was taken in the choice of the text and the selection of the material, in order that the point of view and style would be appropriate and interesting to the adult reader. The history in its newspaper serial form was very well received and will undoubtedly be a real contribution to the work of making plain what American citizenship means."

The financing of the effort was met by a friend of the library with the expectation that the cost would be realized in the sale of the book at \$1.50 a copy. Undoubtedly, the book will commend itself to libraries having Slovak readers, not to mention Americanization classes and other organizations, so that the expectation should be met very easily.

In addition to the history, the volume includes a series of brief sketches of eight great Americans, gathered from various sources. One shrinks a bit from the cuts used to illustrate these, as they are plainly of the newspaper-office variety. Inasmuch as they are "borrowed", perhaps one ought not to suggest a criticism of them.

### The Book Clerk

The book clerk can be honest with you only if you give him a chance. He will quote reviews and tell you what sells best if that is what you want. Or he will silently hand out what you ask for. But try him out on his own taste some time and you will see that for him a book is an individual, living thing. That is his reward for an obscure, moderately paid employment—that books live for him and are his friends. Incidentally you yourself are a large part of his reward. He learns from you and shapes his views and passes on to the next one what you have given him. A Utopian habit all this, perhaps, or a survival of the days before quantity production. But as things actually are, you will find the book clerk as free from commercialism, from standardization as anyone you are likely to meet these days. Let him speak for himself.—*The Book Dial*.

### Professional Training for Librarianship

Mr. Tai's "Professional education for librarianship" intrigues one at once because of its author. All our library associations with China are happy, from Miss Wood at Boone to the latest of the Chinese students in the American library schools, so we are predisposed to an interest, which Mr Kaiser's introduction whets.

Cordial acceptance is sure to be given to the main thesis, that the forces which produce libraries, and the factors continually determining the direction of their development, bear intimately on the problems of education for librarianship; those problems whose present and future must also be thought of as evolving from the past stages.

While Mr Tai's background would seem to fit him admirably for a development of this thesis in general, or for China, he limits himself for the most part to modern libraries in the United States. He does not fail to point out that American conditions have produced an American type of library administration and service. If at points he fails to fulfil the task he set himself, it is partly because there are some things so subtly American they are not to be assimilated quickly.

In pursuance of his plan the volume is divided into three parts:

Development of modern libraries and librarianship

Training and education for librarianship  
A proposed scheme for librarianship.

The third part is the most original and suggestive, but we must follow his lead and estimate the other two first.

Part I is developed in five chapters; The democratic ideal of education. The spirit of research in higher education, Increase of printed material, Library philanthropy, The library associations.

The lack of the background of the American scene is noticeable in the treatment of "the democratic ideal of education", "educating the masses",

true tho it is, to an extent. I feel much more on bedrock for the foundation of the American library, still building, on reading a fine paragraph in Herbert Hoover's American individualism. "Our individualism differs from all others because it embraces these great ideals; that while we build our society upon the attainment of the individual, we shall safeguard to every individual an equality of opportunity to take that position in the community to which his intelligence, character, ability, and ambition entitle him; that we keep the social solution free from frozen strata of classes; that we shall stimulate effort of each individual to achievement; that through an enlarging sense of responsibility and understanding we shall assist him to this attainment; while he in turn must stand up to the emery wheel of competition."

Is not that the root of our "Adult education" movement, of "Reading with a purpose", and all our diversified service, from children's work to the greatest of university collections?

Mr Tai's analysis is incomplete in another way. It would be a very one-sided education for librarianship which ignored all other strains which went to the making of the American library situation today, and represented it as the result merely of a sudden creation of tax-supported libraries in the middle of the nineteenth century as a formal complement to the public schools. Cubberley's History of education traces all the stages thru which American education passed before it attained the democratic ideal. *En passant*, some places do not accept it yet for free college education. An equally careful tracing of the elements of our library development is needed, because they still affect conditions. To relegate the whole train resulting from Franklin's subscription libraries to a bare mention under philanthropy gives a wrong perspective. That gentleman was a thrifty soul, not a philanthropist, and his move the most

democratic to that time. Later it caused a stage of arrested progress which, not over 15 years ago, was one of the greatest obstacles to the free tax-supported public libraries, at least in Pennsylvania.

Chapter 2 sketches well the change in the point of view and in administration caused in college and university libraries by present day methods of teaching. There is an interesting table comparing the growth of 60 such libraries from 1876-1920, compiled from reports of the U. S. Bureau of education of those dates.

A sharper discrimination between the college and university might well fit the title of this chapter, and more study of how far the changes were due to research. The college librarian scarcely thinks of required readings from the reserved books as research, as classes are usually conducted, yet the reserved books determine the methods of the college library largely. No account is taken of the fact, either, that not all serious research work is now done in college, or even university libraries.

*The Periodical* of October 15, 1923, introduced me to "The discipline of letters" by Prof George Gordon, thru this very delightful paragraph, in which he was speaking of the late Sir Walter Raleigh:

I have never known a man who, if it were presented to him more quickly recognized a piece of clean and independent work. For research, on the other hand, as commonly understood in the regulations of universities, his regard was more distant, and the word did not readily pass his lips. . . To all men who have discovered truth, Research is known to be only a compendious and (as it has been used) a somewhat pretentious name for the very natural process of finding an answer to a question, and to be valuable in proportion as the question seems worth answering, and is, or has become, the spontaneous interrogation of the student's mind. The thing must not be forced; not wrung, as Milton says of schoolboys' essays, "like blood out of the nose." "You cannot hound a man into writing a good book."

The section on library associations is interesting and sympathetic. The

description of the American Library Institute does not sound familiar. It must have been "with as near a twinkle as the oriental comes", to quote Mr Kaiser, that the author likened the members to "powerful elders". Has any irreverent American really ever looked upon them with more awe because "they have the actual power of giving positions to their fellow-librarians"?

The first two chapters of Part II deal with librarians in ancient, medieval and early modern times, and are drawn chiefly from Clark, Care of books, Edwards, Memoirs of libraries, Boyd, Public libraries . . . in ancient Rome. The few pages on Chinese libraries are of special interest, and we wish for more.

Chapters 8-10 bring together conveniently information not easily found in one place about library courses and examinations, especially in Germany, Austria, France, and England. There is also historical information concerning recent study of education for librarianship. Various educational agencies are mentioned, especially the library schools. These are listed, and current opinion summarized under six headings: academic affiliations, entrance requirements, curriculum, instructional staff, professional education and training, standardization of library agencies.

Mr Tai occasionally gives his own opinion, that most strongly expressed being in favor of a definite uniform standard for entrance, college preferred, I assumed, but from Chapter 11 it seems to be two college years, I can not be sure of the interpretation.

Some of the facts and statistics are drawn from the A. L. A. Board of education's report, as of April 1925, but too little attention has been paid to verification from other material in print. For instance (p. 163), Simmons is listed as of junior standing for entrance requirements, though the fact of its change to senior standing had appeared in print in several places be-



fore May. The University of California's department of library science had entered the Association of American library schools in January, 1925, yet the reference on p. 128 takes no cognizance of that fact. The same page contains the statement that that association is affiliated with the A. L. A., but a glance at any *A. L. A. Handbook* would have corrected that misapprehension.

I am struck, in fact, with the lack of accurate information, easily available with the most elementary research, or even by the coordination of facts within the volume itself. For example, (p. 169) it is said library school instructors have less favorable environment than college instructors because they have not the same opportunities to meet great scholars and authorities, yet on p. 183, it is stated that 10 out of 19 library schools are now connected with colleges or universities. I should need to be shown that an instructor in New York would be less favorably situated in that particular respect than one in some rather remote college, by-the-way, at that. Incidentally, I note that in the budget proposed for the University of Iowa, \$2000 is allotted for transportation, so that even a university does not seem entirely satisfied with its local great. P. 170 says "instructors have no long vacations, or leaves of absence for self-study or improvement". Nevertheless, it is but a short time since I had a card from Italy from the principal of the St. Louis library school, now abroad on leave. Simmons instructors all have over three months' vacation annually, and those of professorial rank are entitled to one year in seven on half pay for rest, travel, or study, with the understanding they are in honor bound to return at the end of the time, of course.

Is it too much to expect of a person writing on this subject that he shall not make a general, unqualified statement about curricula such as "The grouping of several closely related

subjects under one course-heading is not followed", without looking at the official publications of at least the 14 schools he calls "accredited"? The most cursory glance would have proved the statement was not true for all, though it was for some. It is unsafe to assume that what is true for one school at one time is necessarily true for all of them always, and there is serious danger of error in generalizations and averages in a group so small as 14, of widely varying characteristics.

Part III, A proposed scheme for professional education for librarianship, contains chapters on The library school as a school for a university, A proposed school for the State university of Iowa, Requirements for admission, degrees and curriculum, and appendices on suggested curriculum and budget for the proposed Iowa school.

After reading this part, I went back and reread the introduction and understood better the attitude that had been puzzling me. Mr Tai's library connections, except at camp, have all been with college or special libraries, which explains the chilly academic tone of his references to public libraries. His head approves "a democratic ideal" but his natural feeling seems to crop out more significantly on p. 169, when he speaks of those whose "daily contact is . . . with general readers of public libraries. Unconsciously their views become narrow and they fall into a mental rut".

The discussions on special librarians are throughout the book more acute than on any other kind. One of Mr. Tai's chief reasons for library schools as parts of universities is to educate special librarians, in a second graduate year.

The plan of the combined undergraduate and graduate schools in one institution seems a very desirable one, for those who are preparing for public libraries and the somewhat general service, as well as for those in special libraries and specialized departments.

Tho I find it somewhat difficult to be sure I have the author's meaning, my impression is he expects both kinds to be admitted to the undergraduate years. Then a year or more of actual experience is to intervene, after which those who desire to specialize further may return for a second year, combining one-third of study of certain subject matter not library science, with two-thirds of such library science as is in line with the goal desired, whether it be to prepare to be a librarian of a chemical library, an economics department, or an administrator of a big public library system.

The reference to R. J. Leonard's Trends in professional education, with its doctrine of "middle-level occupational groups", and "highest-level professional groups", is interesting. The point is important, but I should not draw the conclusion from it that Mr Tai does, that "to train the librarians of the middle-level occupational group is a task for undergraduate library schools". I should say it was the task for the training class, or possibly a one-year library school admitting *only* high school graduates. The undergraduate school should contain high-level, with some embryo highest-level people in it, should it not?

Geographically there unquestionably seems a need for some library school between the middle west and the coast, and we all know Iowa is a good library state, so the proposal for a library school there seems reasonable, and only one on the spot would be qualified to judge whether the University of Iowa is the most desirable location.

The proposal, p. 204, is to train administrators of small libraries and assistants in medium and large ones, and special librarians and instructors for library schools. The reason I felt doubtful as to whether it was really meant to educate this first group was that the curriculum proposed did not seem to provide for them, notwithstanding the statement on p. 204.

As to the curriculum, at present the

tendency is distinctly away from putting a full half of the library science program in the junior year, tho it can be done.

It seems to me too weak on the modern human relations and book side. A program where all book selection, and the American library movement are optional seems unlikely to turn out proper librarians.

The budget of any institution can be judged only by itself, but there are certain items anyone can judge. For instance, \$800 for office stationery, is plainly exorbitant for a school of 50 students.

The plan for the librarian to be practically the full administrative officer with only an \$1800 assistant has not usually worked well, if his duties are what they should be as a university librarian. A school of 50 people needs a head to care for its special needs, just as the reference department does, rather more so. That person needs to be one with more authority and more salary than an instructor.

The index was, I judge, not by the author. It is quite full, but unexpectedly weak in indexing sense. For instance, Dr Osler appears on two successive lines, as Osler, Dr and Osler, Sir William; the Association of American library schools on one line, and two lines below as Association of library schools. Under assistants two page references are given, under library assistants a different one, and so it goes.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY

Simmons college

Boston, Mass.

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The University of Chicago has recently acquired three famous bibles; one a German edition printed in Zurich in 1690, another, the Bishop's bible of 1560, and the first Danish bible, 1550. The University library has also obtained the Wendell collection of 68 volumes concerning early writing on vellum, some of them dating back to the eleventh century.

**Library Schools****Drexel Institute**

The students have devoted the month of April to intensive work in school libraries under the guidance of Miss Martha Wilson. The A. L. A. exhibit of school library material was secured by Miss Meta Schmidt. On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, Miss Edith Moon gave two lectures on the work of the public library with the schools.

Faculty and students attended the school library meeting held during Schoolmen's week at the University of Pennsylvania and heard with pleasure the lectures of Miss Mary B. Hall, dean of high-school librarians. Miss Louise Seaman of the children's department of Macmillans spoke on new books for children.

ANNE W. HOWLAND

**Los Angeles public library**

Miss Howe and Mr Hirschberg, members of the Board of Education for librarianship visited the school, March 12.

A course in the special problems in administration of the catalog department was given by Mr Goulding, chief of the catalog department in the University of California, Southern branch. Another special lecturer of the month was Mrs Wells Smith, who aroused animated discussion by her readings of imagist poetry.

The week beginning March 22 was spent in visiting libraries of different types: scientific, university, elementary, junior and senior high schools, county and city libraries. The motor trip to Santa Barbara with stops to observe libraries *en route* proved especially enjoyable. Unusual courtesies were the luncheon given the class by the Oxnard library directors and the tea in the old Spanish garden of the Ventura library. In Santa Barbara, Mrs Linn's transformation of a stable into a temporary library and the playhouse made into the branch called "The library of the ship" had the magic of a fairy tale.

MARION HORTON

**New York public library**

The spring trip thru New York State proved itself full of interesting experiences—library visiting, personal experience and the pleasures of hospitality. The charming Vassar Alumnae house at Poughkeepsie made the stay delightful while visits were made to Millbrook library, Adriance Memorial library and Vassar College library, all arousing keen interest. At Albany, visits were made to the State library and Library school and the new public library. At Utica, Colgate university and the Public library and its branches were observed. Syracuse, Rochester and Ithaca were full of interest and much information was gained. Cordial welcome and hospitality abounded.

The spring term began April 6 with some change in the time for class-room and practical work. The privilege of attending the second year specialized courses at the New York library school was extended to Pratt students and a class of eight are taking work—three, children's work; three, high-school libraries; one, special libraries; and one, Scandinavian literature.

**Pratt Institute**

The annual inspection trip was devoted to visits in the Philadelphia district, to Wilmington and Washington City. At the latter place, much interest was felt in the libraries of the Smithsonian Institution, which are undergoing reorganization. The county libraries of New Jersey were also of interest. Courteous hospitality was extended to the party everywhere and much pleasure as well as profit was derived from the visits.

Recent junior lectures have been Library budgets and finances, Miss Maud Stull; County library work, Miss Adalene Pratt; Community survey, Miss Ernestine Rose; History of the printed book, Prof. A. S. Root. The courses in book selection began April 5.

Sarah C. N. Bogle and Adam Strohm visited the school April 9.

Entrance examinations for 1926-27 will be held June 12.

**St. Louis public library**

The field for practice work was enlarged this year by sending one student for two weeks to the Missouri library commission where she had varied experience under Miss Jane Morey. Other students worked under Miss Ethel McCollough in Evansville, Indiana, for two weeks. They found this outside work of real value to them, and it also brought much of interest to the rest of the class. The constant extension of the activities of the St. Louis public library is being felt in the library school. There is practice work in a field house branch in a community center in addition to the regular branches and those in school buildings.

Calls upon the school to talk to high-school vocation classes on library work have been filled by the faculty with several of the students acting as guides to explain the various departments of the library.

Members of the class taking the training for library work with children have assisted recently in the radio story hour given by the children's department in addition to their regular story telling practice at the branches.

**University of Washington**

The series of special lectures was opened April 7, by Mr John Ridington, librarian of the University of British Columbia. Ralph Munn, reference librarian of the Seattle public library, spoke April 8.

Judson T. Jennings, librarian, Seattle public library, April 15.

Miss Anne Mulheron, librarian, Library Association, Portland, Oregon, April 22.

Mr Herbert Killam, secretary, Public Library commission, British Columbia, April 29.

The other lectures in the series will be as follows:

Miss M. A. Batterson, head of the circulation department, Tacoma public library, May 8.

Mrs John A. Goodfellow, a former instructor in the school, May 13.

Miss Mabel Ashley, librarian, Everett public library, May 20.

Mr Edgar Robinson, librarian, Public library, Vancouver, B. C., May 27.

Miss Mary Kobetich, librarian, Stadium high school, Tacoma, June 3.

**Western Reserve university**

Among the lectures and lecturers since the last report are the following: Periodicals: their selection and use, Irene Beatty, East Cleveland public library; Some observations on European library conditions, and The A. L. A. and its activities, Sarah C. N. Bogle, A. L. A. headquarters; Present possibilities in work with children, Elisabeth Knapp, Detroit public library; Administration problems of the small library, Georgie G. McAfee, Public library, Lima; Activities in the Des Moines public library, Grace Rose, Des Moines, Ia.; Humanities of the librarian, Flora B. Roberts, Public library, Kalamazoo, Mich.; conclusion of the course on the History of printing, Prof A. S. Root of Oberlin college; Modern printing (five lectures), Otto F. Ege, Cleveland school of art; Practical phases of library administration (six lectures), Joseph L. Wheeler, Youngstown public library; Present day drama, May Lamberton Becker, New York.

An entertainment by the Ohio chapter of the alumni association resulted in a gratifying amount for the Brett scholarship fund, and it was besides a successful social affair.

ALICE S. TYLER  
Dean

**Paris library school**

Libraries in Europe are asking to send their staff members for training in the Paris library school so that they may return to their own libraries to install modern methods or improve the methods already existing. Of the two librarians who have already come from Jerusalem, one is Polish and the other Czech, while the applicant for next year is a native of Palestine. Seven Norwegian librarians have applied for next year's course at the school.



Tentative plans are being considered to send Smith College graduates, who are well prepared in French and desirous of library training, for a course in the Paris school.

#### Summer schools

There will be a summer course in library instruction for school librarians at Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, July 6-August 13.

Courses in library methods with university credit will be given at University of Minnesota June 18-July 31, inclusive. Information about these will be given\* by F. K. Walter, librarian, U. of M., Minneapolis.

The Creighton University library, Omaha, Neb., will not offer a course in training for librarianship in the 1926 summer session. It was planned to enlarge the faculty and offer more courses, but for financial reasons the university has decided not to give the courses this year. The course last summer was highly successful and figured nearly 69 per cent of the entire registration.

The usual courses for summer training for librarians have been announced by the University of Illinois. As usual, there will be the two courses—one for college graduates, the work in which when done will be accepted for credit towards the B. L. S. degree, and the other course for high-school graduates. The latter course is open only to librarians and assistants who have graduated from an accredited high-school or its equivalent, and to other applicants who have completed a full year of study in a college or university of approved standing. The work in this course is not credited towards a degree. Preference to applicants from Illinois will be given until June 1.

#### A Remnant from Ft. Wayne<sup>1</sup>

I've been working at de loan desk,  
all de livelong day,  
I've been working at de loan desk,  
jest to pass de time away,  
Don't you hear de public crabbin'—  
"Is this how our taxes goes?"  
How we keep our reputation—  
ain't nobody knows.

<sup>1</sup>Presented at Tri-State meeting by Indianapolis group.

#### The Invention of Printing in China

Carter, Thomas F. *Invention of printing in China and its spread westward*. Columbia University Press, New York, 1925.

China today is generally thought of as a backward nation, but China 1500 years ago was the leader of the known world while Europe struggled thru the Dark Ages and America was as yet unknown. She reached her highest point of achievement in military prowess, in art and in literature during the T'ang dynasty, 618-907 A. D. Four great inventions were largely responsible for this—paper, printing, gunpowder, and the mariner's compass—just as these same inventions were largely responsible for a new day in Europe 800 years later. But almost no attention at all has been paid to the Chinese inventions of paper and printing and Thomas F. Carter, assistant-professor of Chinese in Columbia university, has rendered a great service in the writing of this book.

The rise of Buddhism and the demand for some means of spreading the sacred scriptures among the peoples of the East were largely responsible, first, for the invention and development of real paper made of hemp and rags, and then, of printing, almost a century before they were thought of in Europe. Of course the written language of the Chinese consists of characters representing words and syllables rather than individual letters so that the printing developed was block printing similar to our modern engraving rather than the use of individual movable type. The whole story is a strangely romantic and interesting one and the book richly deserves an important place among the publications of the year.—*Library Lantern*, U. N. H.

#### Scholarships and Fellowships

The Sterling fellowships for research in the humanistic studies and the natural sciences established by a gift of \$1,000,000 to Yale University graduate school are open for bibliographical work.

These fellowships are offered equally to graduates of all approved colleges and universities, and to both men and women for study and investigation under the direction of the Graduate faculty of Yale university or in affiliation with that body.

## Department of School Libraries

*All the known world, excepting only savage nations, is governed by books.—Voltaire.*

### A Lesson on the Use of Reference Books in a High School Library

Margaret M. Ross, High School Librarian, Wilmington, Del.

[Miss Ross having been asked several times for a model lesson for teaching the use of reference books in high school says, "It occurs to me that a lesson of this kind, which I have found in a two years' trial to be effective in a student body of over 2300 might help some of the high-school librarians. All suggestions from other librarians on it would be helpful to me."—Editor.]

This lesson plan is a typical one used in teaching the Freshmen of the High school, Wilmington, Delaware, how to use their school library. Each first term English class comes to the library for two periods. The instruction for the first day covers reference books, that of the second day the meaning of classification and the use of the catalog. Each student is given an outline which explains the ground covered.

Of course, all information imparted by the librarian does not remain in the mind of the student, but greater ease in using the library comes with time, and results in greater confidence and interest. The time of the student is saved because he does not have to wait his turn for the librarian's attention; the time of the librarian is not taken up with routine questions, thus giving her more freedom to help with reference work that is too difficult for the student to do alone.

Since the librarian can choose any live subject as an illustration in teaching there is no limit to the possibility of interesting the class. With few exceptions, the students are very ready in answering questions and taking part in a discussion.

#### The Lesson

**Librarian**—How many of you have ever used this library? How many are familiar with the Public library? I see that most of you are acquainted with these libraries. What I shall try to do this period is show you how you can help yourself when you come to this library,

and what you will learn about your school library will be of value to you in any library.

You get such excellent training in the use of the dictionary while you are in the grades that I shall not spend any time on it. But you do not know how to use an encyclopedia very well and that is what we shall take up first. What is an encyclopedia?

**Student**—Books where you can look up information about things.

**Librarian**—Yes. Do you think you can find lives of people in encyclopedias?

**Student**—Yes.

**Librarian**—Living or dead? (*There will be a division of opinion about this.*)

**Librarian**—How is the information in an encyclopedia arranged? How can you find what you want?

**Student**—Alphabetically.

**Librarian**—Always? (*Some times there will be some students in the class who will say no. When asked for an example they usually cite the Book of Knowledge. We discuss the index to that and mention other encyclopedias that have an index and why.*)

You remember that most of the encyclopedias used to be lettered on the backs of the volume like this one—LOR-MUN. It would not be very hard to find which volume held your particular word, would it? But look at this volume of a new encyclopedia. (*Holding up the volume*) This is the New International, and on the back of this volume there is no combination of letters, but two whole words—see—the top word is Mississippi and the bottom word is New Forest.

Now this is what that means—the first word in the volume is Mississippi and the last word is New Forest, and somewhere between the two words in a volume you will find the word you are looking for according to the way your word is spelled. Suppose we choose for example the topic Moving Pictures. Now you would stand before this set of books and look at each volume trying to decide which one held your topic. You would notice this word Mississippi and you would say to yourself: "M O V comes after Mississippi, and M O V comes before New, therefore my word must be in this volume." (*I ask for questions after this and go over it again if there is any doubt in my mind about their understanding me. At this time, I call attention to the physical make-up of the volume, the plates, maps, etc.*)

**Librarian**—Suppose your teacher asked you to find out something about the topic Child Labor and to make a report on it. Does anyone know what I mean by those two words?

**Student**—It means children under 16 working.

**Librarian**—Does it mean when John carries coal and Mary does the dishes?

*Student*—No, it means working for money, not going to school.

*Librarian*—Yes. Where do you think we could find something about Child Labor?

*Student*—In an encyclopedia.

*Librarian*—That is right, and what do you suppose the article will tell us?

*Student*—It will say what the words mean and give the history of them.

*Librarian*—Yes, when you had finished reading it you would have a good idea of what you had been asked to report on, with this exception: you can understand that it takes a long time to make an encyclopedia. Many people write the articles for it, these must all be looked over, and finally the set must be printed, then sold. Thus some of the information will be several months or a year old before it gets into our hands. In most cases this will make little difference but sometimes we want to know the very latest information we can get. Do you think this Child Labor topic is a dead or live subject? Do you think that everyone thinks alike about it?

*Student*—I think it is wrong.

*Librarian*—Why? *(Here there will be numerous good answers to this question, such as the children will not get an education, their health will be harmed, and some argue that the money may be necessary for the support of the family.)*

*Librarian*—Well, we do not seem to agree ourselves. Where do you think we can look to find out what people are saying and doing about Child Labor today?

*Student*—Newspapers.

*Librarian*—Anywhere else?

*Student*—Magazines. *(Place for a brief discussion here of the merits of each. There are always two opinions very warmly defended. It is well for the librarian to sum up the best points and to urge the reading of a good current events magazine and a home city paper.)*

*Librarian*—Suppose when you came down to the library and asked for magazine articles about Child Labor, I should place before you eight copies of the *Outlook*, which is a weekly, eight copies of the *Literary Digest*, which is another weekly, and several copies of *Current History*, and the *World's Work*, etc. Do you think that you would find what you wanted by the end of the period?

*Student*—No, it would take more than a period to look through all those.

*Librarian*—Yes, that is what I am trying to show you today, the shortest and best way to get the material you desire. Over on the magazine rack there are copies of some 20 magazines, and in the drawers below, the back numbers are kept. And down there are the bound copies of those magazines most frequently called for. For all these magazines we have an index by which we can find what has appeared in them without being forced to look through each copy. Here in my hand I have a *Reader's Guide*. This is the index to magazines. It comes out once a month and the latest number is, of course, the index to magazines of the previous month; because you see,

the *Guide* cannot be published until after the magazines have been published. So when you see, for example, the word *December* on a copy you will remember that it will index November's magazines. Now we shall learn how to use it. *(Each member of the class is given a copy of the Guide.)*

*Librarian*—Look this over and tell me how the subjects are arranged.

*Student*—Alphabetically.

*Librarian*—Yes. I want each one of you to turn to the heading Child Labor. *(A few students will have to be helped.)* Someone please read aloud the first entry under the topic. Notice the subdivisions below this entry, how they are listed under the names of various countries. Let us look at the first entry under the word United States for that is the country with which we are concerned. Please pay careful attention to what I tell you about it. The first thing you see is the name of the article in the magazine, next you may see the name of an author, if there happens to be one. Following that is the name of the magazine which is sometimes abbreviated. Let us read the names of some of these. Next you will see a number; this is the number of the volume after the magazine is bound. This is what a bound magazine looks like. Following the volume number is another number, this is the page number; and after this you will see the date of the magazine. Thus you can readily see that bound, or unbound, you have your reference. Any questions?

*Librarian*—Suppose you returned to your teacher with a report of what you had read in the article in the encyclopedia, bringing it up to date with the information you got from the magazines you had consulted. She would look this over and perhaps say to you—"This report is very good as far as it goes, but no where in it do I find any mention of the number of children employed in industry. Do you not think it might help us to know the reason for all this discussion if we were told how far Child Labor has spread?" And you might reply—"But none of the articles I read mentioned any figures." To which she could reply "I would like you to try to find some." Then back you would come to the library for more help and here is where we would get it. Notice on your stencil the name *World Almanac*.

*(Holding it up before the class)* This is one of the most valuable books in the library. It comes out every year and of course the date on the front means the date it was issued; the figures will cover the years before. Thus 1926 means material up through 1925. Perhaps it may help you to remember what to look for in the *World Almanac* if I tell you that it answers the questions "how many and how much." You will not find any opinions in it, you will not find any discussions as to whether a thing may be right or wrong; there will be nothing but plain facts and brief statements. Upon opening this book you will see right away that it is not alphabetically arranged. How, then, can we find what we wish?

*Student*—Index.

*Librarian*—Yes, and where does the index usually appear in a book?

*Student*—In the back.

*Librarian*—Yes. But suppose you do not see it there, where would you look?

*Student*—In the front.

*Librarian*—In the *World Almanac* the index is in the front. What shall we look for?

*Student*—Child Labor.

*Librarian*—(Handing the book to a student). Please find for me what the index says and read it aloud to the class. Suppose you turn to the reference to Child Labor in New York City and read the first figure you see there. Now do you see why there is so much said about young children working? Just a few of these figures, not too many, will make your report stronger.

A few words more about this little book. It contains the most curious and valuable information. You could find who won the tennis championships for several years, how much wheat was raised in the U. S. for a number of years back; what countries belong to the League of Nations, but remember no opinions will be expressed as to whether the U. S. should or should not join it. And let us remember also that you will not find any biography here.

*Librarian*—Let us go back a bit. You will remember that you told me the encyclopedia not only had articles about various things, but it also had information about people. What kind of people do you think will be written about in an encyclopedia?

*Student*—Famous people.

*Librarian*—Living or dead?

*Student*—Both.

*Librarian*—We can be sure that if a person becomes famous during his lifetime he will get into an encyclopedia. For instance, the President of the United States will surely be there. But sometimes when you have looked up the author of the book you read for your English work you have not found him in any encyclopedia. Now that does not mean that your particular person is unknown; it may mean that he is as yet known for the most part among people who are interested in his kind of work. And there is a way to find out about people who are well known in this way. On your stencil you will see two names—*Who's Who* and *Who's Who in America*. Here they are on this table. *Who's Who* is a list of prominent British people, men and women. What do I mean by British?

*Student*—England and her possessions.

*Librarian*—Yes. And this other volume covers the same kind of information for the United States. As I show you the contents of it you can see how fine the print is and how brief the information must be. Please note carefully what I say about the biography in this book. You are going to notice first that the arrangement of names is alphabetical, next you will see the full name of the person, then

where he was born, and sometimes when; not always will you find the date of birth. Next you will see who his parents were, where he was educated, whom he married, then a list of the positions he has held or other work he has done. Following this will be his business and home addresses. All this information is written by the people themselves, the publishers of these volumes simply print the information sent to them.

There are two ways of getting into *Who's Who*. First you may have done something so well that your name becomes well known. Then you will be asked to send in your biography to the publishers. Or you may hold a position of such prominence that whether you are famous on your own account or not, your biography will be printed here. Can any one of you tell me what kind of a position you might have that would be sure to get your name into a *Who's Who*?

*Student*—A government position—something in politics.

*Librarian*—Yes. Thus you will find lives of admirals, generals, members of Congress, governors, etc. Add to this those who have done special things in their own field, authors, scientists, educators, actors, musicians and librarians, etc. And one more thing, and this is important; there are only living people in these books. Don't look in them for lives of Dickens or Longfellow—the encyclopedia is the place to look for those. If a person whose name is in a *Who's Who* dies this year then next year's copy will not have his life. You will not always know when you go to look up a person's life just what nationality he is, therefore if you do not find it in one, look in the other.

*Librarian*—Who said "Give me liberty, or give me death"?

*Student*—Patrick Henry.

*Librarian*—When and where did he say it? (Once in a while a student will be able to answer this, but seldom) If I repeat to you what someone else said to me in the very words he used when he said it, what do we call that?

*Student*—Quotation.

*Librarian*—Right. It may be that we wish to know who said a certain familiar quotation or it maybe that we wish to know the exact wording of it, or even where we can find what else was said along with it. See on your stencil the name Bartlett's Quotations. I have a copy of it in my hand. It is one of several quotation books. As soon as you opened it you would notice that it was not alphabetically arranged. How, then, shall we find our quotation?

*Student*—In the index.

*Librarian*—Yes. Where is the index?

*Student*—In the back.

*Librarian*—Yes, and what was our quotation?

*Student*—"Give me liberty, or give me death."



*Librarian*—What word would you look under?

*Student*—"Give."

*Librarian*—Suppose you did not know that "give" was the first word, what other word would you choose?

*Student*—Liberty.

*Librarian*—Right. (*Hands book to a student*) Look up this quotation, please.

*Student*—There are lots of "Gives."

*Librarian*—Run down the column until you locate what you want.

*Student*—Here it is, and the number 430 follows.

*Librarian*—What do you think 430 means?

*Student*—The page.

*Librarian*—Turn to that page, please, and read the quotation to the class. Now is it clear how we can find a quotation? I do not expect you to remember the author of this particular index for there are several others. But what you should remember is that it is possible to find where many well known sayings originated. Think how valuable this will be for a quotation from Shakespeare's works for you will be able to tell the exact act and scene of the play in which it appeared.

*Librarian*—Who wrote Barbara Frietchie? I see that you do not agree. By the way, what is it, a book, poem, play or short story? (*They usually know it is a poem*). Sometimes it is not easy to remember who wrote a poem even when we are quite well acquainted with it. Moreover we seldom remember all of any poem. But here is an index that is the greatest help not only for finding who wrote the poem, but where we can find a copy of the poem itself.

This book which I hold in my hand is called on your stencil Granger's Index to Poetry and Recitations. First we shall consider poetry, and the poem Barbara Frietchie in particular. You all know that the first thing we must notice in opening a book is how the information is arranged. This book is divided into three parts—first a title index, next an author index and last a first word index. So you see we have three ways of finding our information. If you do not know the title perhaps you remember the first line of the poem; if you do not know the author you can find him by looking under the title. If we are looking for Barbara Frietchie, how shall we go about finding the author?

*Student*—Look under Barbara in the title part.

*Librarian*—(*Handing book to student*) Please find it, and tell the class who wrote it.

*Student*—Whittier wrote it.

*Librarian*—What do you see after his name?

*Student*—A lot of letters.

*Librarian*—You would expect to find a copy of the poems of a well known poet like Whittier in this library. But sometimes we find that we do not have books of poems of poets

not so well known. And sometimes a person writes a poem that never has appeared in a volume of his own writing. But we must not think that because we cannot find what we want in one place, we cannot find it somewhere else. You have all seen books that have many, many poems written by dozens of different authors. We call such collections anthologies. And in this library there are many fine anthologies. These letters after Whittier's name stand for the many anthologies where this poem has appeared. These letters do not mean anything until you turn to the front of this index and see the words "Key to Symbols." This will explain your letters. For your convenience I have checked in ink the ones we have in this library. Choose the one you want and ask for it at the desk. But first remember that we have most of the poets here so that you will not always have to look in a collection.

*Librarian*—So much for poems; but the title to the index said recitations also. You know we seldom remember who wrote a recitation; we usually remember the title or the first line. Recitations appear in all kinds of books, in readers, in special kinds of collections etc. so that this book saves us a great deal of trouble in finding just what we want. We find the recitation the same way we find the poem.

*Librarian*—Any questions? Remember what I said a while ago; you will not be able to tell the exact names of all these books we have talked about, but keep in your minds that there are several good encyclopedias and quotations books, a poetry and recitation index, and the index to magazines. I think the titles *Who's Who* and *World Almanac* will stick in your memories. Every time you get confused or have spent more than five minutes trying to find things for yourselves, come right to the desk for help, for you cannot afford to spend too much of your period looking in vain.

The Bureau of Education made a study in 1918 which shows that of 1,000 pupils enrolled in the first five elementary grades, 634 reached the eighth grade; 342 reached high school; 139 graduated from high school; 72 entered college, not including normal schools and teachers' colleges; and 23 finally graduated from college. It is the belief that the figures for 1925-26 are higher than those for 1918. The 1918 figures will be brought up to date.

The past gives experience, the future holds out a goal before us, but past and future are useful only as a means to make us work better in the present.—*Bishop Creighton*.

### Library Work with Country Schools<sup>1</sup>

There were several reasons why I decided to do library service for people living in the country districts, and perhaps one of the greatest was that I was "born and raised" in the country. This fact made me feel that I could better see and understand the needs of the country people than a person who was city bred. And another reason was that this work carried me into the great out-of-doors. So it was, then, that I decided I would be a county librarian.

After I had received my degree, this idea still persisted but I thought that in order to carry out this desire it would be necessary for me to go to the Far West and my family objected. However, they were not so adverse to my accepting a position in Detroit and when I went into the sub-branch department of the Public library there, it was with the understanding within myself that this would be a stepping stone to the county work I would undertake.

I had been at Detroit a little over a year when I heard about this position in Fort Wayne and there were several attractions in it for me. The greatest attraction was, that it was county work and I would satisfy my great longing in that respect. Also this position involved work with the schools and I had been graduated from the Teacher-Librarian course at the Geneseo State normal school at Geneseo, N. Y., and I knew that this would help me in the work with the elementary

schools. Besides this, I had had two years of rural school teaching "in my greener years" and I felt that this experience would prepare me to know and understand the problems of the overworked rural one-room teacher as nothing else would. And last but not least, I wished to work under Miss Metz, and fortunately, my application was accepted.

I came the first of September and my work, so far, has dealt entirely with the county schools. The first task was to make up collections. I had worked in the school department at Buffalo and had had some experience in making up collections, but I shall never forget that first morning in our county room. I said to Miss Metz: "Where is the list to use in making up collections?" Miss Metz replied: "We have no list but make up each collection to fit that particular school and community it serves and also following the Indiana course of study." I cannot tell you with what fear and trembling I made up those first collections and for a time, I worked in the dark but I began to understand the problem so much better when I began to go out into the county. You can all readily see how, of necessity, a collection that is going to one of our Amish communities, must be different from one that is delivered to a school on the very outskirts of Fort Wayne. We had some difficulty in getting the necessary information, such as number of pupils in school and in each grade, special requests, etc., and where we did not get this, a call was made upon the school to obtain it. This was the first year we had a truck for the delivery of books and no collections were delivered until enough were assembled to warrant the truck going into that community. By the first of November, most of the collections were in the 93 schools of Allen County.

Whenever it was necessary to call for the information desired above, I inspected the school library already housed in the building. The county

<sup>1</sup>An address at a staff meeting of the Public library, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Miss Corinne A. Metz, county librarian of Allen County, Ind., in an accompanying note saying:

It seemed to me that the experience itself is in no sense unique. I presume any librarian beginning her work with rural schools would follow the plan which Miss Shinover has adopted, but the telling it may be helpful. In other words, one would make a survey of the county, study her problem from these findings and then attack the problem in some such way as we have followed here. To me, the value of her paper is in the emphasis placed on her attraction to the work, the difficulties which she met in dealing with county teachers (which I think would be duplicated in most of our middle western counties) and her tactful handling of the situation.

I shall be very glad to have you use this note of mine in publishing Miss Shinover's article.

superintendent had previously given our library the authority to inspect these libraries. I cannot tell you in what condition I found many of them, but you will know something about their condition when I say that often it was necessary to discard more than half the titles and the teacher was told as tactfully as possible to dispose of them in any way that she saw fit. I was sometimes rather disheartened upon my first visit to a school, for I felt as if the teacher resented my presence, and questioned my right of being there, but I was pleased when I made the second visit to find that this feeling of resentment was greatly lessened and in fact in most cases had entirely disappeared. Now I feel happy in what I do.

In the case of the eight township high schools, I have been giving a series of lessons. The first lesson is given at the school and is upon the book and all its parts with special emphasis upon the index and its uses. In the case where the high school is located in a town where we have a county branch library, the children are taken to the branch for the last two lessons. These are upon the classification of books and their arrangement upon the shelves and the last lesson is upon the catalog and its uses. So far, instruction has been given to the four high schools situated in towns where there are branches and last year one of the high schools where a large deposit station is located was covered. There still remain three schools upon the list. The students have evinced much interest in the work. One of the members of the small town freshman class said to me with much wonder in his eyes when the last lesson was finished: "I am actually going to be able to use this, am I not?" I replied, "I hope so. That is why we gave these lessons to you." An examination is now to be given to those schools covered and this will be a check upon how much the pupils have grasped.

I have also told stories from time to time, whenever the teachers have in-

vited me to do so. I have used for this purpose whatever holiday, birthday or historical event was on the current calendar. It is to be hoped that as time goes on the teachers will co-operate more and more along this line and a definite schedule may be worked out.

I am also hoping that we may do a great deal through the use of special bulletins. I have also thought it would be unusually fine if a series of birthday lessons of our American authors could be worked out as the eighth grades in Indiana have the study of American authors in their course of study. Also so much may be done with the use of bulletins for history work. I have felt that the teachers did not use the library to the extent they should when desiring material for special holidays, and I hope to work out some plan whereby they may use to better advantage the material for entertainments.

These are only a few of the many tentative plans. I am very interested in the work and I am very glad to be at last a county librarian. However, I will say that it is very strenuous work, and while I consider myself very strong physically, at the end of many days spent in the county, I find myself utterly fatigued. My advice to anyone is not to undertake this work unless she has a strong constitution.

CLARA L. SHINOVER

Public library  
Fort Wayne and Allen County, Ind.

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Sight-saving classes in Cleveland schools are described and their organization and procedure set forth in a booklet of that title just published by the Cleveland board of education (\$1).

Cleveland has pioneered in sight saving methods for school children. As early as 1911, this work started there. The best of the city's experience in this field is gathered into this new publication of some 70 pages.

### The Power of Books on Children

The extent to which poor books may be harmful or good ones helpful cannot of course be determined with exactitude. The needs of children differ and we have too little data at present. We should have more practical observation by unprejudiced persons, not those with a theory to prove; of many children of different ages, classes and tastes, instead of a few chosen boys and girls; and for many years rather than a study of temporary effects. Even then one could not know the degree to which in an individual child the inner nature had perceived and assimilated truth, or at what time the seed which had lain dormant might spring into renewed life, or what effect might have been produced or what magic spring touched had there been other reading of greater inspirational power.

Who knows the individual hour in which  
His habits first were sown even as a seed,  
Who that shall point as with a wand and say  
This portion of the river of my mind  
Came from yon fountain?

In spite, however, of such limitations of knowledge, we can determine, with some certainty, the general interests of children at a given time and know the tastes and mental capabilities of individual boys and girls by observing the character of the books they choose for themselves; we can judge also of the comparative values of different books—ethical, social, literary—and can tell which of them will most probably be of benefit. We know, too, that library funds have their limitations and that if we buy books that are inferior in quality or of doubtful value that we must necessarily do without others whose usefulness has been proved.—*Selected.*

### Books for a School Library

How to publish a school paper, by Bessie M. Huff, is a useful library book. The first part of this text for staff members of school papers and members of news writing classes gives

actual problems that are met with in organizing and conducting a school paper, together with information in regard to how to write news stories, editorials, headlines, etc. The second part is a laboratory manual for the study of news writing, which outlines three terms of work. Actual concrete examples taken from school papers have been used as illustrations.

*The Teachers Journal and Abstract*, published by the Colorado State teachers college, is a new magazine which has special interest for the forward-looking teacher, who is anxious to keep in touch with professional literature. From 60 to 80 abstracts of magazine articles are to be published each month. They are classified so that a reader may conveniently follow the activities of his special interest. From time to time, annotated lists of references to special phases of education will be given. The first number of this magazine was issued in January, 1926. —*Indianapolis Public library.*

### Dedication at Iowa State College

[The appearance of this article was unavoidably delayed for which regret is expressed.—*Editor.*]

The new library building at Iowa State college was dedicated, January 21, 1926.

At the convocation in the morning, with 3,000 present, Dr W. O. Thompson, former president of Ohio State university delivered the principal address, which showed an unusual knowledge of library organization and administration.

He referred to the fact that once upon a time a pile of books would have been called a library, but today a shipment of three or four car loads of books to a university will not present it with a library. A library has a definite organization, all worked out and applicable to every book that reaches the building. This organization must be prepared to receive all books, catalog them correctly and make them instantly available to those desiring to use them. The cost of building and



the book equipment have increased greatly since the war. The cost of a volume on the shelves in a university library today, aside from the value of the building, varies from \$3 to \$4. "It is difficult for a Board of education to ask for sufficient sums to keep a library in efficient condition. If learning and scholarship are to be the objectives in education, then the provision of an adequate library becomes imperative."

Dr Thompson referred to the need of the formation of the library habit by every student. "Any student who fails to acquire the library habit misses a large part of his education. The library is the buttress of sound learning and will be of use to a man after he leaves school. For 50 years, he must educate himself and to do this it is necessary that he is able to speak his own language in a clear and forceful manner and to be able to read it."

Following the convocation in the morning, a luncheon was held for invited guests; short speeches were made by the Governor of the State, representatives of the Board of education, Dr T. W. Koch, representing the A. L. A., Dr Johnson Brigham, representing the librarians of the state, J. B. Kaiser, representing the University of Iowa, and others. About 60 out-of-town librarians were present.

In the afternoon, Dean Beyer spoke of the desirability of considering first in the library building, the services to be rendered, and second, the architectural features. Mr Souers, representing the architects of the building, described the building from the standpoint of the architects and spoke of the need of close consultation between architects and technical librarians inasmuch as a library building is primarily for use, and must be adapted to economical administration and ease of service.

In the evening, a reception was held by President Pearson in the new library building for the faculty and invited guests.

C. H. B.

## News from the Field

### East

Leo R. Etzkorn, N. Y. S. '24, head of the technology department of the Public library, Youngstown, Ohio, has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Cambridge, Mass.

Miss Adelaide A. Nichols, auditor of the Boston public library since 1868, resigned from the service on December 31, 1925. Frank C. Blaisdell, night payroll clerk, completed his fiftieth year of library service on February 17.

The annual report of the Public library, Malden, Mass., shows that the library served last year a population of 52,000 thru 25 agencies, distributing for home use 331,510v. thru 14,321 registered borrowers. It also records, number on the staff, 18; books on the shelves, 80,251; receipts, \$46,364. This library has an endowment fund of \$365,216 and receives from the city \$25,000.

The report of the Public library, Winchester, Mass., for 1925 records the heroic struggles of the library board and librarian to provide library facilities for a town which does not seem to be much interested, else why should the report say the year 1925 was a "hopeless struggle with congestion in every quarter"? The library has 29,293v. on the shelves; a circulation of 49,790v.; borrowers, 5355; staff, four full time and two substitutes; population, 11,577; assessed valuation, \$26,249,300. The report closes with the story of the efforts of a special committee of the library to investigate the standing of the institution in the community.

### Central Atlantic

Theodore Bolton, Pratt '24, has been made library assistant at the New Utrecht high school in Brooklyn.

Miriam L. Colston, N. Y. P. L., '23-24, cataloger, Washington Square library, New York university, was appointed assistant, Adelphi College library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Clara L. Curtiss, N. Y. S. '24-25, acting librarian, Rochester City normal-school, has been appointed librarian of the Monroe high-school, Rochester, beginning next September.

Janet Doe, N. Y. P. L., '21-22, formerly assistant librarian, Rockefeller Institute, was appointed in charge of periodicals, Academy of Medicine library, New York City.

Vivien L. Canfield, Pratt '24, has been made supervisor of branches of the Free public library of Newark, N. J. Miss Lillias P. Nichols, Pratt '16 succeeds Miss Canfield at Clinton Hill.

Carl W. Hull has been made librarian of the Free library, Indiana, Pa. Mr. Hull was formerly connected with the A. L. A. Camp library service and later librarian at Millinocket, Me.

Elizabeth H. Baxter, Pratt '17, formerly head of the cataloging department at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, has been made librarian at Haskins and Sells, succeeding Miss Anna Burns, Pratt '08.

"Pittsburgh Week," under the direction of the Chamber of commerce, in March, by exhibits and other means, gave the citizens an opportunity to get a comprehensive view of the institutions, industries and products of their city. Stores, shops and manufacturers cooperated by giving up window display space for exhibits. One company gave the whole lower floor of its building for the exposition of the activities of Pittsburgh.

The Carnegie library of Pittsburgh had a good window space in the main entrance to the exposition. Its exhibit showed the growth of the library during 30 years. A small book represented the first year's circulation by the library, and the 1925 circulation was represented by a book seventeen times larger. Into this large book came ribbons from the various branch libraries pictured on the map behind the large book, illustrating how they help feed the circulation. The various interests served by the library were represented

by pictures, with an appropriate book displayed before each picture.

Thousands of the library's publications were distributed to the large daily crowds. Over a hundred books by Pittsburgh authors were displayed in the Technology department.

The twenty-ninth annual report of the Public library, Buffalo, New York, is, as usual, an interesting account of a successful year in bulk of service, extension of influence, and growing power for good in Buffalo communities. It gives the number of books on the shelves, 482,545; sheet music, 29,135; pamphlets, 51,143; maps, plans and charts, 4559; card-holders, 188,501; home circulation of books, 2,249,968v.; circulation from class room libraries, 731,211v., with stock on shelves, 59,948v.

A report is made of the retirement of Frederick J. Shepard who has been a member of the staff since 1897.

Three new branches, made possible by a bond issue, were opened. Others are under construction.

The total income is recorded as \$295,814, which includes \$12,087 from overdue books and \$813 from lost books. Expenditure for library staff salaries was \$115,865, for building employees, \$16,663, and \$62,576 for books.

#### Central

Randall W. B. French, N. Y. S. '25, resigned as cataloger the John Crerar library, Chicago, to become head of the Technical department of the Public library, Toledo, Ohio.

Miss Martha McClure, well known club woman of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, has been appointed to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Mrs H. J. Howe, on the Iowa library commission.

The annual report of the Public library, Rochester, Minn. (25,000 population), records a circulation of 132,373v. thru 17 agencies, 5.3v. per capita; number of registered borrowers, 5782,

23 per cent of the population; books on shelves, 18,355; income, \$19,631; expenditures, \$15,097, .60 per capita.

Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian of Public library, Youngstown, Ohio, has been appointed librarian of Enoch Pratt free library, Baltimore, Md., to succeed the late Dr Bernard C. Steiner.

The board of directors of the Public library, Minneapolis, Minn., has changed the name of the Thirty-sixth Street branch to the James K. Hosmer library. The *Book Shelf* says:

Dr Hosmer has just passed his ninety-second birthday; he walks every day to the Central library, and does an amazing amount of reading. As librarian emeritus, he is still a member of the library staff. We trust that he will be pleased with the intent of the library board and the library staff to perpetuate the memory of his long services to this library.

A \$100,000 bond issue for the erection of branch libraries in Sioux City, Iowa, was carried successfully in the general city election, March 29. The result is gratifying to the library authorities since there was only about five weeks to conduct a campaign after making the decision to ask for the money, and there were two other issues involving increased indebtedness submitted at the same time. It is planned to erect one branch building during the coming summer and one each succeeding year.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the organization of public library service for Flint, Mich., was celebrated in that city, March 22. Dr A. E. Bostwick of St. Louis gave the principal address. The library service in Flint was first organized by the Ladies' library association of Flint in 1851 when the town had a population of 1200. Its subsequent history is one of continued growth in size and prosperity. The town now has a main library, seven branch libraries including three excellent high-school libraries and numerous deposit stations.

The library at Marquette university, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has been reorganized. Larger quarters have been

assigned with appropriate furniture. Old books have been renumbered and many new ones added. There will be 15,000v. in the circulation department and almost an equal number in the reference department. Many rare and out-of-print books on religious subjects in German, Spanish, French and English have been added as well as books in Hebrew, Arabic and Latin. The Rev Augustine Siebauer, S.J. is head librarian.

The report of the libraries of the University of Chicago for 1924-25 shows the number of volumes in the library, 717,153. These figures include only bound and accessioned volumes on the shelves. The space problem, it is stated, grows more acute with the growing demands on the libraries. This problem may be partly solved by a removal of the book resources to outlying buildings, which has been in process for a good many years of necessity. The erection of an extension of the library building so that the books would be all in one undivided reservoir would be a more ideal solution of the problem.

The number of readers served in the libraries during the year was 1,086,573. The recorded use of volumes reaches 567,744. There were added to the library during the year 43,749v. and 11,109 titles.

The report of the Reuben McMillan public library of Youngstown, Ohio, appears in the public press of that city, and records a circulation of 689,770v., with 67 per cent fiction calls, at a cost of \$87,186, with 31 full time workers with a number of high-school pupils after school and teachers on the evening schedules, etc. The circulation was 4.9 per capita whereas the average throughout the United States is 3.5 per capita. The cost of circulation was \$1.26, about 23 per cent cheaper than that of the average library. The growth in circulation makes more branch libraries necessary, and an east and a west side branch are in prospect.

Among the expenditures were salaries, \$47,613; books, \$14,558; and

binding, \$3635. Of the total income, the city appropriates \$68,992 and the school board, \$2092.

An important item relates to the staff:

"Few cities are getting as much or as high quality service from such a small number of workers. Another city lending 1,000,000 books a year at a cost of \$300,000 has a staff of 180 persons."

#### South

Dorothy Bemis, Pratt '16, formerly librarian of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, has been appointed librarian of the Hampton Institute library, Virginia.

The annual report of the Public library, Lexington, Ky., records: Receipts, \$11,311; expenditures, \$10,675—books, periodicals and binding, \$2901; salaries, \$4948; volumes on the shelves, 36,881; circulation, 55,174 v.; registered borrowers, 7287, of which 424 are county borrowers.

Elleine H. McLellan, librarian of the Arkansas Library Service bureau, has resigned to complete her library school work at the University of Illinois library school. She will give part time service to the library also.

Gladys Allison, N. Y. S. L., '13-'14, will take Mrs. McLellan's place at Little Rock.

The report of the Public library of Knoxville, Tenn., records the number of books on the shelves, 56,515; circulation, 284,447v.; registered borrowers, 26,135; population, 95,464; receipts, \$48,085; expenditures—books, \$13,424; library service salaries, \$23,522. These with other expenses appropriated the whole income.

The annual report of the librarian of the University of North Carolina records the loan desk figures for 1924-1925 as 126,572v. with an additional 27,329v. from the School of education and 32,109v. loaned thruout the state. The increased use thruout the university was approximately 30 per cent. The library has reached the limits of expansion of space while its functions

are multiplying many-fold. A new building is planned for the university with a policy that will allow greater concentration of library material in the central building with possibilities for indefinite expansion. The number of volumes in the library is 151,000. The receipts for the year were \$70,688.

At its last session, the Mississippi legislature passed a law creating a state library commission. It will be composed of five members as follows: *ex officio*, president of the State federation of women's clubs, State librarian, and president of the State library association, and two members appointed by the governor for terms of six years beginning with June 1, 1926. The commission will elect a salaried secretary outside its membership who will be the executive officer of the commission. No appropriation was made for the commission, but the professional spirit will carry on until something more is possible. The functions of the commission will be pretty much the same as those exercised by other state library commissions.

The Public library, Charlotte, N. C., records a home circulation of 123,321v., an increase from 57,400v. circulation in 1919. The library collection contains 16,981v. The newspaper reports of the library's service are most complimentary to Anne Pierce, librarian for the past seven years, under whose direction, it is stated, the circulation has mounted steadily, reference work has extended, the number of new readers has increased and the physical equipment of the building enlarged—all responsible factors in the progress made. A branch was opened in the Central high school with nearly 3000 carefully selected volumes prepared to serve the high-school teachers and pupils. This branch is under the joint control of the Public library and the city schools.

The annual report of Richmond, Virginia, records the number of books on the shelves, 30,000v.; home circulation, 128,206v.; population, 191,000;



registered borrowers, 11,169; maintenance expense per capita, 20 cents. An interesting item in the report is a "Dickens record". A library edition, good print on good white paper, having good margins and binding strong enough to endure long service, showed a record of 117 loans. Other editions less attractive, inside and out, not good enough for rebinding, gave a record of 80 loans. This is offered as evidence that time-tested books should be offered in editions as well printed and as physically attractive as the currently published novels.

A statement backed by evidence is that since the opening of the library, there has been a greater increase in book sales by every local book store, the stock is more varied, and according to information from New York publishers, there is a greater volume of mail order book business received from Richmond than from any other city in the south.

The annual report of the Rosenberg library, Galveston, Tex., 1925, calls attention to the fact that the building which was erected in 1901 has been outgrown for both contents and the work which the librarian, Frank C. Patten, wishes to conduct there. The building was erected with provision for 60,000 volumes, ample accommodation, it was thought, for many years of growth. The library now contains 75,000 volumes, 60,000 pamphlets, 6000 manuscripts and a large number of maps and pictures. The local historical museum quarters are also beginning to infringe on the library's territory.

A colored branch library was opened in the new Central high-school building for colored people.

The library's income, entirely from endowment, remains practically the same while the cost of everything has advanced considerably. This means curtailment of the work instead of enlargement to meet the growing needs of the public. Recommendation is made that the A. L. A. standard of

one dollar per capita be adopted for the library. This would nearly double the library's annual appropriation.

Work in the children's department is most active and the librarian, Emma Lee, continues to have from time to time small exhibits of educational and cultural value to the children. There are also temporary exhibits for adults in the main corridors of the library.

#### West

Clara A. Larson, N. Y. P. L., '14-15, formerly cataloger, Fresno County library, California, was appointed head cataloger University of Arizona library.

#### Pacific coast

Helen Johns, Pratt '21, formerly librarian, Deschutes County library, Bend, Ore., has become librarian of the new Public library at Longview, Wash.

The John Fiske library of approximately 7400 volumes has been presented to the University of California at Los Angeles.

There are 3000 v. of history and biography, 950 v. of philosophy and religion; 275 v. of folk lore; 575 v. covering the classics and the Orient and 800 v. in the modern European languages.

John Fiske, the original collector of the books, was widely known as a historian and philosopher.

#### Canada

Mrs Mary Duncan Carter, N. Y. S. '23, will lecture on book selection and subject bibliography at the McGill University summer library school.

The staff of the Toronto public library recently presented the chief librarian, Mr George H. Locke, on the occasion of his birthday, with a particularly fine suitcase. The presentation was made by Miss Frances Slaton, head of the reference division. An imposing birthday cake had been provided, and with inviting refreshments and selections by the library glee club, a very pleasant hour or two were spent.